

# THE TIMES

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Referendum promised as broadcasting ban is lifted and border crossings are reopened

## Major gives Ulster a vote on peace plan

By Nicholas Wood and Nicholas Watt

JOHN Major seized the initiative from the IRA last night by promising the people of Northern Ireland a referendum on their constitutional future and lifting the broadcasting ban on Sinn Féin.

The Prime Minister flew to Belfast to make the dramatic statement, which was reinforced by the announcement of Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, that ten border crossings would be reopened.

Making a renewed effort to build on the encouraging progress of the past two weeks, the Prime Minister was careful to balance his first significant concessions to the republicans since the IRA ceasefire with a move calculated to reassure the suspicious Protestant majority.

He said that he had come to talk directly to the people of Northern Ireland. He appealed over the heads of hardline Unionists, such as the Rev Ian Paisley, telling Loyalists not to listen to siren voices claiming that they would be tricked.

He said it was vital that the Government carried with it the consent and confidence of the population, and he reinforced his guarantees to the Unionists by announcing that there would be a referendum on future arrangements for governing the country.

The outcome of the so-called three-stranded talks involving London, Dublin and the constitutional parties in Northern Ireland would be put to the people of the Province.

"Let me say to all the people of Northern Ireland: the referendum means that it will be your choice whether to accept the outcome," Mr Major said. "My commitment means that no one can go behind your backs. Not today. Not tomorrow. Not at any time. It will be for you to decide."

"There have been no secret

deals made directly or indirectly, no secret assurances given, no nods, no winks, no tricks with mirrors. And, most importantly, after 25 years of bloodshed and terror we have not lowered our guard."

Mr Major said he could not say when the referendum would be held because its timing would depend on when Sinn Féin renounced violence permanently and on the rate of progress of the talks.

He renewed his appeal to the IRA to give an unambiguous pledge that its ceasefire was permanent. He said the IRA was "nearly there", but it had not yet made clear that its

Dublin ready to free IRA inmates

Dublin is prepared to free selected IRA prisoners before the end of their sentences as a reward for the ceasefire, the Irish Justice Minister said yesterday. Maire Geoghegan-Quinn said she is considering early release for half the 82 republican inmates in Irish jails. She will look at the length of sentence and behaviour of inmates. Page 2

truce was "in all circumstances, for all time". Once that assurance was given, "the clock can start ticking from midnight", he said, and three months later Sinn Féin could enter exploratory talks with the Government.

The widely discredited ban on direct transmissions of interviews with paramilitaries and their spokesmen was introduced in 1988 by Margaret Thatcher. Mr Major said the restrictions no longer served their original purpose and lifted them with immediate effect.

He challenged the IRA and its spokesmen to take the

opportunity to speak out for peace. "To tell us directly, not under the cover of an actor's voice, that they are truly committed to peaceful methods only, and to there being no resumption of violence in the future. Let them tell the people of the UK, loud and clear, face to face, that their commitment to end violence is lasting and genuine."

Mr Major won Cabinet backing for the package on Thursday, but the timing of the announcement was left in his hands. After extensive consultations with Unionists, during which he spoke by telephone to James Moynihan, leader of the Ulster Unionists, in Australia, he decided to seize the "golden opportunity" offered by his visit to Belfast yesterday.

Downing Street officials conceded that the nationalists would regard the lifting of the broadcasting ban and the opening of the border crossings as gestures in their direction, but insisted that there were good domestic reasons for ending the ban. With Gerry Adams, the Sinn Féin president, poised to visit the United States later in the autumn, ministers did not want to hand him the propaganda weapon of being in a position to accuse the Government of denying free speech.

The ending of the ban was welcomed by Sinn Féin, moderate Unionists, Tory MPs and media organisations. Tom Hartley, Sinn Féin's chairman, said in a radio interview that the Government was recognising that the ceasefire was real. But he avoided saying it was permanent.

The Independent Television Commission, which has campaigned to have the ban lifted, said that the Government's decision "will allow full and proper scrutiny of Northern

Continued on page 2, col 4



Sean Caffrey, one of the actors who has been providing the voice-over for broadcasts featuring Gerry Adams, making his final recording yesterday

## Yard and DPP deny rift on Nickell case

By Stewart Tendler and Michael Horsnell

THE Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police and the Director of Public Prosecutions sat side by side at Scotland Yard yesterday to robustly defend their handling of the collapsed Rachel Nickell murder case.

Clearly stung by criticisms and reported rifts between the

Yard and the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) Sir Paul Condon, the Commissioner, said he had no apologies to make for the police investigation. Barbara Mills QC, the DPP, said police and lawyers had worked closely throughout the case.

Sir Paul said brave and courageous officers had faced a "farrago of ill-informed comment". The file on the case

remains open and will stay open; new evidence will be scrutinised.

Facing a packed press conference he was asked if he would apologise to Colin Stagg, freed at the Old Bailey after the judge had castigated the use of an undercover WPC to lure evidence from him. Sir Paul said the Nickell family were owed an apology but said he could not comment further

because the Yard may face legal action from Mr Stagg.

"I fully support the actions of my officers," the Commissioner said. "I take full responsibility for the police action in this case."

Sir Paul said the undercover operation was not originally designed to provide evidence but to extract information which could lead to forensic evidence such as the murder

weapon. Yesterday sources at the CPS played down suggestions that an inquest into the Stagg case debacle had led to recriminations between CPS lawyers and the police. Detectives kept in close touch with the service and told it they were planning an undercover operation before it was launched in January 1993.

Damages appeal, page 5

Times On-Line  
The Times today takes the first steps towards becoming an electronic newspaper.  
Leading article, page 17

Take your car to France or Holland and back for up to 60% off Sealink fares  
See Weekend, page 29

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## Clinton stays home to plan invasion

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Clinton has cancelled a planned trip to Haiti tomorrow in a clear sign that the American-led invasion of Haiti could be launched as early as Sunday or Monday night.

In Washington, officials said there were reports of divisions emerging within Haiti's military leadership about whether to capitulate and accept a US offer of safe exile before it was too late.

Publicly, the regime continued to be defiant. But Edward Seaga, Jamaica's former Prime Minister, said he had been approached on Thursday by a Haitian intermediary close to Lieutenant General Raoul Cédras, the junta leader. Mr Seaga said he had

forwarded to Washington a proposal under which the junta would resign but stay in Haiti if America called off the invasion and promised their supporters an amnesty.

In yet another attempt to persuade the junta to step down, Jean-Bertrand Aristide, the exiled President, pledged not to seek vengeance against his opponents.

George Bush, the former President, and General Norman Schwarzkopf, the Gulf War commander, meanwhile joined the widespread American opposition to an invasion which Mr Clinton's address to the nation on Thursday night did little to dissipate.

Deadline for junta, page 13

## Kidnap at cashpoint

A MOTHER of four was recovering in hospital last night after being sexually assaulted by a man who abducted her at knife-point as she withdrew money from a cash machine.

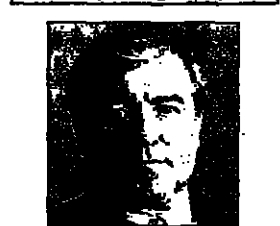
The woman, who was forced into her car, was also seriously assaulted by the 20-stone man. She was driven from the building society in

Exeter, Devon to a remote spot where he forced her to strip and sexually assaulted her. She escaped and ran to a couple in their car as her attacker drove off. A police spokesman said: "This is a violent, nasty attack."

A man was being questioned by police last night.

Woman abducted, page 8

### MORE ON MONDAY



### MORE SPORT

In Times Sport, 13 pages of sports reporting: Terry Venables talks exclusively about Sugar, Spurs and Kilnsman

### MORE SCIENCE

In Mind and Matter, a new science page in Section 1: Sir Fred Hoyle, the controversial cosmologist, on life as he knows it



### ARTS EXTRA

In The Week Ahead, in Section 1: Take that on tour and Benedict Nightingale on the brilliance of Brad Fraser, playwright. And start collecting our free CDs

### PLUS

- Dormer on Bridge, a new, daily bridge column
- The Agenda page draws a political map of Britain
- And Times columnists: Lynne Truss, Peter Ridsdell, Libby Purves, Matthew Parris and William Rose-Mogg

## RAF photographs pinpoint Berlin's dormant bombs

By Joe Joseph

SECOND World War aerial photographs, taken immediately after Allied bombing raids on Germany and given to Berlin a decade ago, are being used to pinpoint the 3,000 unexploded bombs still buried in the German capital. The RAF file of 7,500 photographs could have detected the bomb that on Thursday shattered a building site in Frankfurt. Allee, one of east Berlin's busiest avenues, killing three people.

The RAF pictures are part of a library of five million produced by Allied bombers between 1939 and 1945 of what was then German-occupied western Europe and the northern Mediterranean shore. The archive belongs to the Public Records Office but is on permanent loan to the University of Keele in Staffordshire.

As the war neared its end, Allied bombers raided German cities daily. One in ten of their bombs failed to detonate.

Computers can extract precise map co-ordinates from the post-raid photographs. An unexploded bomb often shows as a pinpoint in a line of craters. According to Norbert Funke, of the Berlin photogrammetry department, "by measuring the position of the pinpoint with a computer, it is possible to locate the bomb on a modern map."

The 3,000 unexploded bombs are only part of an estimated 15,000 live explosive devices, including artillery shells, grenades and bullets, still buried under Berlin. Bombs have regularly exploded across Germany since the

war as their ageing trigger mechanisms deteriorate.

For years the Bonn government petitioned Britain for a glimpse of the RAF photographs. A decade ago, Britain co-operated after a nine-mile-long anti-tank trench full of live ammunition was located in west Berlin. In 1983 a bomb went off near a school in west Berlin, luckily during the holidays. The biggest cache found in the city was in 1955, when

### Arnhem memories

A mass parachute jump to commemorate the Battle of Arnhem, which began 50 years ago today, is expected to be postponed until Sunday by bad weather.

Leading article, 17

Weekend, page 1

58,000 bombs were dredged from the bed of the Havel River.

Petra Reetz, a spokeswoman for Berlin's building department, said that Britain handed over the relevant prints from the Keele archive in the early 1980s. She said that anyone carrying out public works in Berlin was legally obliged to have the site inspected for wartime bombs. The service is free.

But this procedure is not obligatory for private contractors, so the firm responsible for the site of Thursday's explosion technically did not break the law. "But it's a question of responsibility," Frau Reetz said.



THE FAMOUS GROUSE FINEST SCOTCH WHISKY QUALITY IN AN AGE OF CHANGE

هلنا من الامر

Mountbatten killer among prisoners expecting reward for ceasefire

# Irish hint at freedom for IRA terrorists

BY NICHOLAS WATT, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

TOMMY McMahon, who killed Lord Mountbatten in 1979, could be among the prisoners in the Irish Republic to be released before the end of their sentences, in a reward for the IRA ceasefire.

Maire Geoghegan-Quinn, the Irish Justice Minister, said that she was considering early release for half of the 82 republican prisoners in Irish jails. She said: "We will have to look individually at all of them. Some of them will not serve their full sentences. I am not at liberty to say who they might be."

The minister, speaking on Thursday, made clear that her decision was related to the IRA

ceasefire. "In every conflict in the world, where people decided to lay down arms and take the democratic political process, every minister for justice had to face the same decisions in relation to prisoners who are in prison because of the difficulties."

Of the 82 republican prisoners in the republic, 57 were jailed for IRA offences. Mrs Geoghegan-Quinn said she would consider the prisoners' length of sentence, their behaviour in prison and the effect of their release on the community. She pointed out that half of the prisoners were due to be released in the next two years, adding: "In the case of those nearing the end of their sentences some of them will not serve the full term."

Most of those jailed in the republic for terrorism are held in the top-security Portlaoise Prison, 50 miles south of Dublin, but inmates who have broken off their links with terrorism are held at Mountjoy Jail in Dublin.

McMahon, 46, who was given a life-sentence in 1979 for blowing up Lord Mountbatten at Mullaghmore, is due to be released in the next few years. He has already been released on parole and has severed his links with the IRA.

Nessan Quinn, who escaped from Brixton Prison in 1991 with Pearse McAuley after producing a gun, and is serving four years in the republic after being convicted last year of having a revolver and three rounds of ammunition, might also be released. Quinn, 30, could normally expect to be released after serving three years.

McAuley, 30, was jailed for seven years in Dublin last year after being found guilty of having a pistol and 20 rounds of ammunition with intent to endanger life.

The two men were wanted in Britain on warrants issued in 1993 alleging escape from lawful custody, causing grievous bodily harm and possession of a firearm. At the time of their escape they were awaiting trial on charges which included conspiracy to murder.

Mrs Geoghegan-Quinn made clear that the nine terrorists who were jailed for murdering policemen would not be released early.

Leading article, page 17



Geoghegan-Quinn

## Woman tipped for the top

MAIRE Geoghegan-Quinn, Ireland's Minister of Justice and a Fianna Fail MP from Co Galway, is one of Dublin's most effective political operators (Nicholas Watt writes). In pushing to reward the IRA for its ceasefire, she has her eye on the staunch republicans in her party who want Sinn Féin to be welcomed into the political fold.

Mrs Geoghegan-Quinn, 44, is tipped to become the first woman Taoiseach. Her sparkling performances on the stump have made her one of Albert Reynolds's most trusted ministers and powerful force in Fianna Fail.



Jimmy Smyth celebrating with supporters in an Irish pub in San Francisco after his release on Thursday

## Britain may appeal after US judge bars extradition of IRA terrorist

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

BRITAIN was considering an appeal yesterday after an American judge barred the extradition of a convicted IRA man, saying that he would be persecuted in jail.

Judge Barbara Caulfield, of the US district court in San Francisco, ordered the immediate release on Thursday of Jimmy Smyth, 40, who escaped from the Maze prison near Belfast in 1983 after being sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment for trying to kill an off-duty prison guard and his wife.

The judge's decision to free

Smyth was the first test of the 1986 US-British extradition treaty, originally designed to make it harder for IRA men to find refuge in the United States.

The ruling was based on a provision of the treaty that bars the return of a fugitive who might be harmed because of his religion, nationality or political opinions.

"The punishment, detention and restrictions on his personal liberties that James Smyth would face upon his return to prison in Northern Ireland are adequate reasons to deny certification of extradition," Judge Caulfield said. Smyth's supporters hailed

the judge's decision and said it would help three other IRA suspects now being held in America — all of them also in California — to fight extradition to Britain.

But American prosecutors are expected to appeal against the verdict on Britain's behalf. Peter Reid, a British spokesman in New York, said: "We will be studying the judgment with a view to launching an appeal."

Smyth was convicted in 1977 but escaped during a mass jail break from the Maze by 38 IRA prisoners in which two prison guards were shot. He was rearrested in San Francisco in 1992,

where he had been working as a house painter since the year after the escape, and was charged with making a false declaration while applying for a US passport.

Britain sought Smyth's extradition but faced a hostile court in tortuous legal proceedings. The court heard evidence not only from British government officials but from supporters of Smyth like Ken Livingstone, Labour MP for Brent East.

But the British case was hindered by the judge's order that it release still secret documents on the Stalker inquiry into the alleged shoot-to-kill policy.

## Legislation that brought ridicule

BY ANDREW PIERCE

WITHIN minutes of Douglas Hurd announcing the broadcasting ban, the Government admitted that the restrictions were riddled with loopholes. Tory MPs were mortified when it emerged that Sinn Féin councillors could not discuss politics, but could go on air to talk about parochial issues and their hobbies.

The Government was ridiculed by broadcasters for the fact that Sinn Féin supporters

could write a newspaper article but could not be quoted on the air. After it emerged that actors could provide voice overs for the likes of Gerry Adams, the ban faced a further barrage of criticism from MPs.

The broadcasters insisted on screening "health warnings" that reports had been compiled under Government restrictions. The Government was enraged.

Michael Checkland, BBC director-general, said the ban

was a damaging precedent. The National Union of Journalists compared the restrictions with South Africa. The Home Office issued four separate interpretive documents.

When Tim Renton, a Home Office minister, said that journalists should telephone the Home Office for guidance, there were instant comparisons with Iron Curtain regimes.

Ministers, however, said that the ban was working. In the 12 months from October

1988 when the ban was introduced, the number of Sinn Féin appearances on British television declined by 63 per cent.

As far back as 1979 Lady Thatcher was determined to derail the publicity wagon after a member of the INLA appeared on BBC television in disguise and discussed the murder of Airey Neave. "I will never, never forgive them," she told her advisers. She was referring not to the terrorists, but to the BBC.

### BROADCASTING BAN: WHAT THEY SAY

We must try to find ways to starve the terrorist and the hijacker of the oxygen of publicity on which they depend  
*Margaret Thatcher, July 1985*

Terrorists draw support and sustenance from access to radio and television  
*Douglas Hurd, proposing the ban*

We are not going to go away. We will be back  
*Gerry Adams, October 19, 1988, the day broadcasting ban was introduced*

It is a grave mistake. The more you see of these people the better  
*Lord Rees, former Labour Northern Ireland Secretary*

Foolishness has been replaced by utter stupidity  
*Seamus Mallon, SDLP MP*

British liberties are suffering death by a thousand cuts. After each cut there is a flurry of protest which is quickly forgotten  
*Lord Bonham-Carter*

The defence against the menace of terrorists can no more rely on traditional methods of fighting crime than one could prevail against chemical or nuclear warfare with bows and arrows  
*Lord Jakobovits, former chief Rabbi*

The IRA have been handed a propaganda gift on a plate  
*Rt Rev Stanley Booth-Clibborn, Bishop of Manchester*

Nobody calls it censorship if Mafia spokesmen are not allowed to explain over the airwaves why it is advisable to pay protection money  
*Conor Cruise O'Brien*

## Major promises Ulster referendum

Continued from page 1  
Ireland affairs. Normal consideration of accuracy and due impartiality will, of course, apply to such coverage.

John Birt, the BBC director-general, said that the decision was "a welcome relief. We can once again apply normal and testing scrutiny to all sides in the debate."

Jim Wilson, general secretary of the Ulster Unionist Party, also welcomed the move. "It has been a joke and most people will not be annoyed at the comedy being removed from the airwaves."

Calling for a permanent cessation of violence, Mr Wilson said: "I would like the IRA to give that clear signal. We need to talk about the surrender of arms, surrender of ammunition and ill-gotten gains through finance and racketeering. That is a process which has yet to be triggered off."

However, Sammy Wilson, Mr Paisley's press officer, attacked the ending of the

broadcasting ban, saying that while many recognised it had degenerated into a farce it symbolised the exclusion of terrorists from the political process.

The Democratic Unionists gave a warning that the concessions granted to the IRA "in whatever dirty deal John Major has struck with the terrorists" would slowly unfold.

Norman Lamont, the former Chancellor, who has emerged as a stern critic of the Prime Minister's Northern Ireland initiative, said: "I welcome the lifting of the broadcast ban. It always was ineffective and counterproductive, more helpful to the IRA than its opponents."

"I also welcome the announcement of a referendum. One of the fears of the people of Ulster has been that new arrangements would be decided on without their agreement. The principle of consent is vital. I hope this will help to lessen people's fears and anxieties."

## Howard threatens EU summit veto

Britain will not hesitate to wield its veto at the 1996 summit on the future of the European Union if its national interest is threatened, Michael Howard said last night.

In a keynote speech, cleared by Downing Street and the Foreign Office, the Home Secretary, one of the Cabinet's foremost Euro-sceptics, gave the strongest hint so far that John Major was prepared to fight moves towards a federal Europe. Echoing the Prime Minister's speech in The Netherlands last week, Mr Howard said that Britain was not prepared to countenance an EU "Premier League" of countries forging ahead to a federal state while others were consigned to a second division of stragglers. He called for a "made-to-measure" Europe in which Community institutions were tailored to the differing interests of member states, rather than an "off-the-peg" standard-size Europe, ill-fitting and splinting at the seams.

Mr Howard also issued a blunt warning to the European Parliament against trying to use the 1996 Intergovernmental Conference to increase its powers — a stance that was likely to bring Britain into conflict with Germany.

His speech at Brasenose College, Oxford, to a group of right-wing European politicians formed to draw up a Euro-sceptical agenda for 1996, was the most robust statement by a senior British minister of London's bargaining position in the run-up to 1996. It appeared to confirm Mr Major's shift to the right over Europe and held out the prospect of him fighting a general election in late 1996 or early 1997 on the strength of his refusal to transfer more powers to Brussels.

## Trains in near-miss

Railtrack and the RMT rail union were embroiled in another dispute over safety last night after the disclosure of a near-miss between two crowded commuter trains. The incident involved a Sprinter train from Weston-super-Mare to Birmingham which had to brake sharply to avoid an InterCity 125 that sped through a junction in front of it.

## Cannabis galore...

Customs officers and police, fearing a hippie version of the film *Whisky Galore*, sealed off a stretch of coastline last night to prevent a storm-wrecked yacht, believed to be carrying cannabis valued at £5 million, being plundered. The *Akiba* drifted and sank off the Yorkshire coast after Customs officers arrested its three crew members on suspicion of smuggling drugs.

## NHS payouts unlawful

Health authorities have unlawfully paid out up to £3 million in compensation to staff who lost their jobs, according to the National Audit Office, a government spending watchdog. Ninety health service employees received an average of £33,200 each in unauthorised payments after their contracts were terminated in the reorganisation of the NHS.

## Detective disappears

A married detective accused of murdering his pregnant girlfriend has vanished, leaving a note detailing his funeral arrangements. Detective Constable Vincent Hand, 31, disappeared on Wednesday, two days before he was due for his twelfth appearance before magistrates in Bradford accused of strangling Angela Jenkinson, 32.

## Drunk BR driver jailed

The drunken driver of a train that crashed into a station causing £500,000 of damage was jailed for nine months by an Old Bailey court yesterday. Stephen Peckham's empty passenger train rode over the buffers at Tottenham Corner near Epsom, Surrey, and smashed into the booking office. Peckham, 41, was three times over the legal alcohol limit.

## Seven years for fire plot

Three members of a family were jailed yesterday for an insurance swindle. John Pitt, 48, his wife Mary, 47, and their son David, 20, denied conspiring to commit arson after their terrace home burnt down. Mr and Mrs Pitt, of Ashington, Northumberland, also convicted of trying to obtain £100,000 by deception, were jailed for seven years and David for five.

## Walkway victim named

A second Briton among the six people who died when a ferry walkway collapsed at Ramsgate, Kent, early on Wednesday was named yesterday as Jason Dudley, 23, from Epping, Essex. Steven Jones, 34, from Manchester, also died and seven passengers were seriously injured. Investigators are continuing their examination of the ferry berth.

## Dyslexia boy loses case

A bid to establish a legal right for dyslexic children to have school entrance tests weighted to take account of their difficulties has been rejected by the Court of Appeal. Lawyers for a "gifted" 11-year-old dyslexic boy, had claimed that Tiffin boys' school in Kingston upon Thames, southwest London, discriminated against him by not allowing for his disability.

## Snake with two heads

A two-headed grass snake, christened Four-eyes, has been found in a Sussex compost heap. The month-old reptile, which is seven inches long, was found at Winchelsea and is now at the Living World Centre at Exeter, near Alfriston. Terry March, senior keeper at the reptile house at London Zoo, said: "If both heads can feed then it will survive."

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## Jury convicts 'evil' killer who abused and robbed elderly

By Lucy Baskington

AN 'evil and cunning' teenage killer was found guilty yesterday of murdering an 88-year-old woman during a 20-day crime spree against elderly people. Francis Casey, 17, stamped on Lillian Nodley so violently that he left the imprint of his shoe on her face, the Old Bailey heard.

Casey attacked, robbed and indecently assaulted at least 20 other pensioners in the three weeks following his release from Feltham Young Offenders' Institute after serving a three-month sentence for burglaries.

Police believe the number of his victims could be nearer 60. "In all my 26 years as a police officer I don't think I have ever dealt with a more dangerous criminal. He is evil and cunning," Det Sgt Keith Manktelow said outside the court yesterday.

The youth's crime wave culminated when he barged into the home of two sisters, Phoebe and Lillian Nodley, in Islington, north London, last November, the court heard. He had been arrested for another offence earlier that day and released on bail.

During his trial Casey claimed he never intended to kill and was desperate for money to buy crack cocaine. Police believe he got away with at least £10,000 during the 20 days.

DS Manktelow, of Islington police, said: "When we questioned him he barely showed any comprehension, let alone remorse, for what he had done and the terror and fear he had caused the old people. A lot of the time he would just sit there and smile. Being in an interview room with him was quite eerie."

"I have never seen such evil in any man, young or old. There are no words to describe the person who did this sort of thing."



Casey, stamped on his victim's face



Phoebe Nodley: she survived the attack

before fleeing with £300. Miss Nodley died in hospital two months after the attack.

Casey admitted the attack in court, saying: "She was trying to grab my legs. I stamped all over her face. I did it three or four times. Blood was spurting up the wall."

PC Robert Anderson, the first officer on the scene, said: "The house looked like a bomb had hit it. Lillian was in a terrible state. She was battered beyond recognition."

Casey, who is illiterate, was a regular truant at school. He began his criminal career at the age of 13, telling pensioners he had kicked his ball into their gardens to persuade them to open their doors.

The son of Irish travellers, he had been living on a caravan site in Wood Green, north London. He spent £5,325 of the proceeds from his crimes on a Rover car and was arrested a few hours later for dangerous driving.

After delivering their guilty verdict yesterday, the jury learnt of Casey's history of crimes against the elderly, which included burglary and violent and sexual assault.

On November 10 he attacked a one-legged pensioner, aged 84, who was forced to perform oral sex on him after being bound with her own nightdress. Another victim whom he also sexually assaulted was so frightened she locked herself in a wardrobe, which Casey turned face down, trapping her as he made his escape.

A 90-year-old victim who has since died said Casey attacked her and left saying: "I am going to be rich after this."

Mr Justice Hidden agreed to an application by Stephen Batten QC, for the defence, for an adjournment for reports. But the judge warned him the murder sentence would be one of detention during Her Majesty's pleasure.

## Cyprus police to question soldiers on second killing

THE three British soldiers being held in Cyprus over the murder of a Danish tour guide may also be questioned about another killing on the island earlier this year.

Formal charges were being drawn up against the soldiers after the body of Louise Jensen, 23, was found battered and naked in a shallow grave. Police said they would probably face charges of premeditated murder and kidnapping.

Rifemen Justin Fowler, 26,

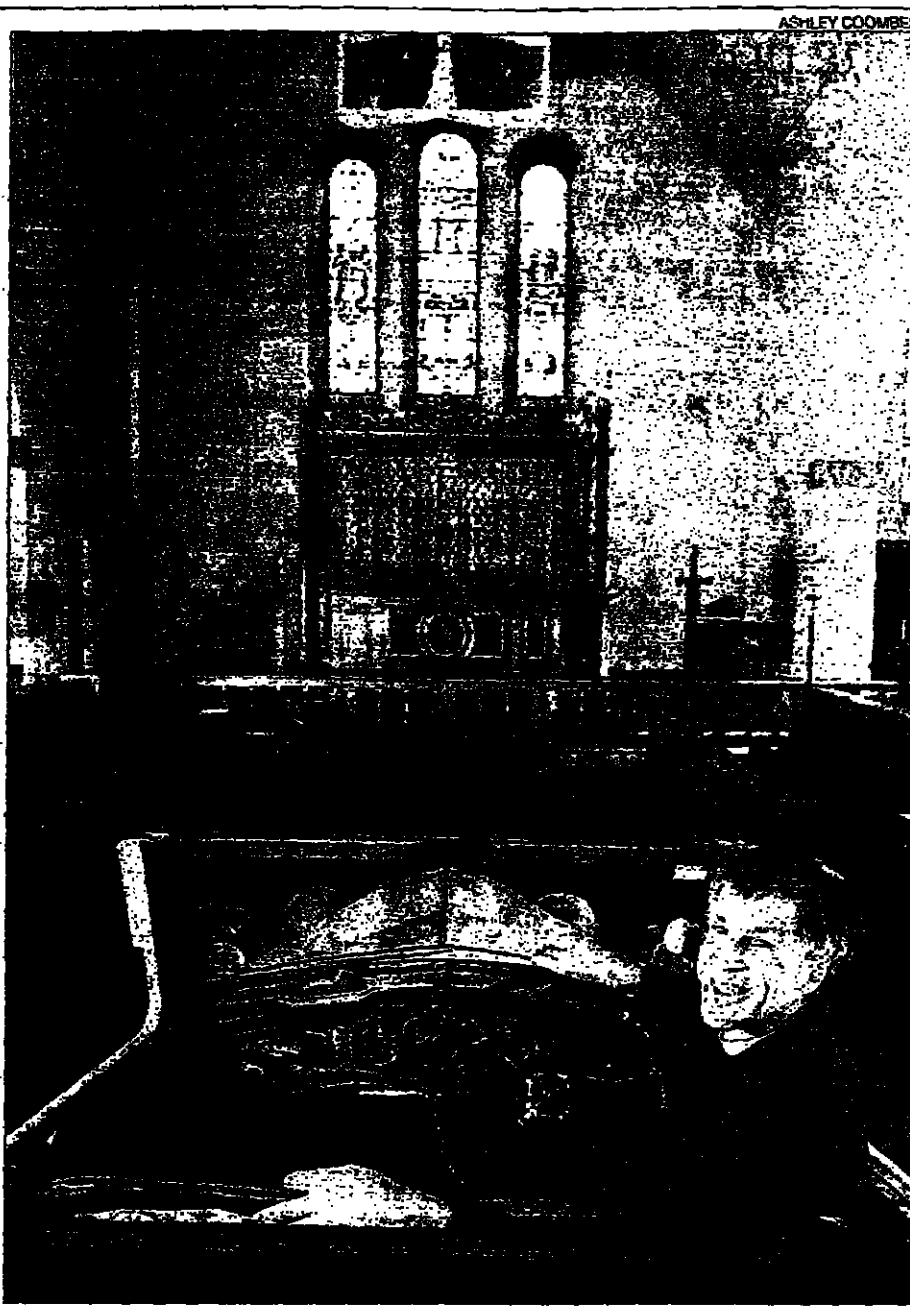
Alain Ford, 26, and Jeff Parnell, 23, will appear before a district court next Tuesday for the renewal of a remand order.

A senior detective said that they might also be questioned about the murder of a young Cypriot woman in February, although it is not known whether the men were on the island at the time.

Last night it emerged that the soldiers' commanding officer had said in July that his soldiers could not be expected

to stay out of trouble. Lieutenant-Colonel Hugh Willing wrote to some British tourists who said they had been attacked and abused by a drunken soldier from the 1st Battalion Royal Green Jack-

ets: "I command nearly 650 men here with an average age of 22 and as much as I would wish them to be paragons of virtue, they cannot be expected to survive two and a half years in Cyprus without causing some trouble."



The Rev Jim Canning with the Coventry-made 1933 Riley: "The traditional harvest is to have a bag of potatoes at the altar, but why not a car?"

## Vicar finds fleet of Sunbeams for Jesus

By Kevin Eason  
MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

THE traditional harvest festival fare of sacks of potatoes and loaves of bread will be complemented in one church next week by the bounty of modern man's harvest — the motor car.

The Rev Jim Canning plans to drive cars into his church to celebrate the fruits of his parishioners' labours in the age of the machine. As the congregation settles down in the pews in St Paul's Church, Coventry, they will sit alongside a 1932 Riley, a symbol, according to Mr Canning, of the work on which their city was founded. "My parishioners have worked all of their lives around the motor industry, which has played an important part in the history of Coventry," he said.

Instead of "Bringing in the Sheaves", his parishioners will sing the praises of the plentiful Mini and mighty Triumph that used to be manufactured near the church. Requests for "Jesus wants me for a Sunbeam" will only stir memories of a famous Coventry marque. The idea for the service came from Barry Rourke, chairman of the Talbot Sunbeam Lotus Club, who has promised ten Sunbeams for the service.

At Your Service.  
Weekend page 2

## Animal activists firebomb Boots

By Paul Wilkinson

ANIMAL rights activists are believed to be responsible for the latest in a series of firebombings at Boots stores yesterday. Two of the company's shops in York and Harrogate, North Yorkshire, were attacked as well as premises in York run by Boots' DIY subsidiary Fads.

The Harrogate branch and the Fads shop were severely damaged. Other devices, causing less damage, were placed in a field sports shop and a charity shop run by the Imperial Cancer Research Foundation in Harrogate.

More than 100 fire-fighters fought the five fires, calling in reinforcements from as far as Scarborough, 60 miles away.

The firebombings are the latest in a series of attacks on the Boots chain in which seven premises have already been hit. In the worst last month damage costing more than £2 million was done to town centre premises in Newport on the Isle of Wight.

A Boots spokesman said the company was "horrified" that it had become a target. "None of our cosmetics is tested on animals, we have not done so for 20 years, however we are compelled by law to test some of our pharmaceutical products on animals."

"Our concern is for the staff and public who use our stores. They should not be discouraged from using Boots. The risk of involvement is very slight."

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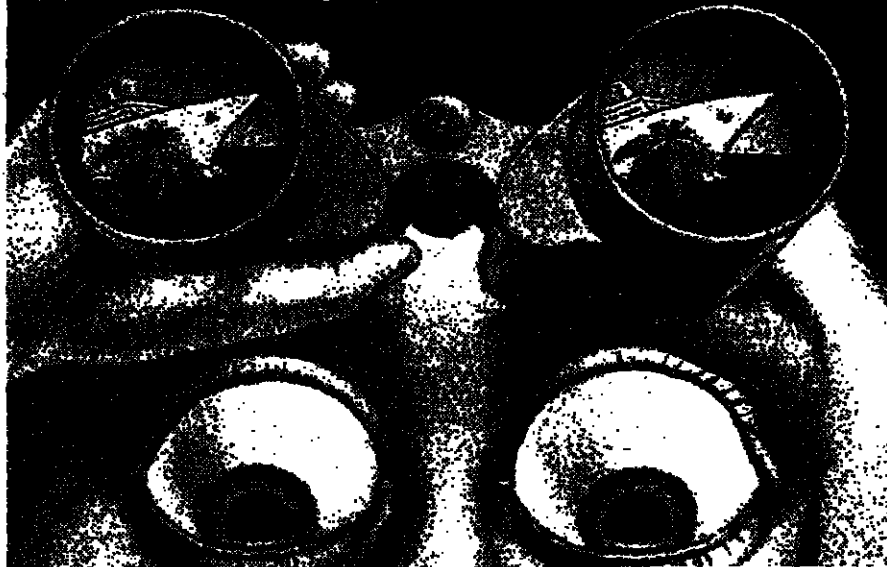
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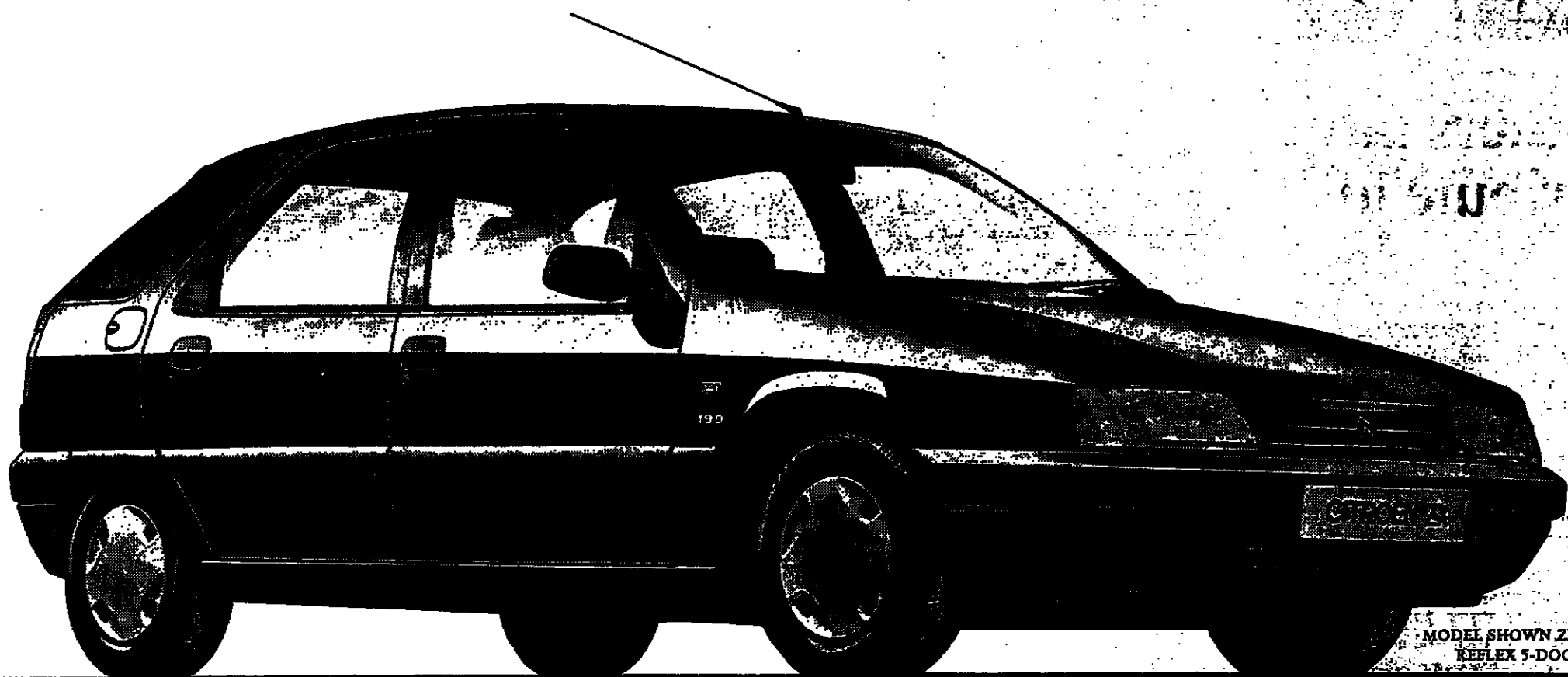
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مكتبة من الأصل



## Nickell boyfriend to appeal over '17p an hour' damages

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

AN APPEAL against the "incomprehensible" damages of £23,500 to the five-year-old son of Rachel Nickell for her brutal murder on Wimbledon Common in 1992, is to be launched by his father Andre Hanscombe.

This was disclosed yesterday by Andrew Nickell, the boy's grandfather, who said it put the price on Rachel's value as a mother at 17p per hour for the 15 years that the boy Alex will have been deprived of her when he reaches 18.

The offer by the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board also equals scarcely more than 10 per cent of the £225,000 Colin Stagg could collect after the case against him collapsed.

Mr Hanscombe, 27, who took his traumatised son to France to start a new life, is expected to return to England shortly to launch the appeal against the damages settlement offer.

Mr Nickell, 50, said: "It's a good world isn't it? I find the offer incomprehensible, and that's being polite. I find it

astonishing that society can fix the sort of values we are talking about on my daughter's life and her services as a mother."

The board has offered £22,000 "for the loss of Rachel's services" until Alex is 18, plus a preliminary £750 for the trauma of witnessing her death on the common where he clung to her body crying "Get up, Mummy".

On top of that the board has indicated it will pay "at least" another £750 in the future when the long-term effect on the boy has been determined.

Mr Nickell, a retired businessman, said from his home in "Amphill", Bedfordshire: "Alex's father is appealing and I shall be seeing him in the next two to three weeks to discuss that appeal. But we are told that if we wish to appeal it will take three to four years."

Lawyers have said that Mr Stagg, 31, the unemployed handyman who faced trial for murder until the case was dropped after six days of legal argument at the Old Bailey on

Wednesday, could collect up to £225,000 from the police for false imprisonment and malicious prosecution. He hopes to sell his story for £50,000.

He was released after 13 months in custody awaiting trial after Mr Justice Ognall severely criticised a police undercover operation designed to lure him into a confession and ruled that the evidence obtained was inadmissible.

The CICB, which will appoint its own members to preside over an oral appeal hearing, would not comment.

Mr Nickell added: "Alex gives all the appearance of being a happy, well-adjusted boy and he has shown extraordinary resilience but he needs to be left alone. He remembers everything that happened."

The boy has adjusted well to a rural community in France, where people believe his mother was killed in an accident, and is bilingual. He talks about his mother and has pictures of her in his bedroom.

Condon's defence, page 1



The new bells of St Leonard's, Shoreditch, arriving yesterday prior to being raised to the tower on Monday

## Bells of Shoreditch ready to ring out again

By ANJANA AHUJA

EAST London will resound next week to the peal of 13 new bells at the church of St Leonard, Shoreditch, immortalised in the Cockney rhyme "Oranges and Lemons" ("When I grow rich, say the

bells of Shoreditch"), the new bells replace ones that have hung in the church tower since 1739.

The bells, cast at a bell foundry in Loughborough, Leicestershire, arrived yesterday and will be raised to the tower on Monday. The new tenor weighs one

twentieth of a ton. Among those waiting to greet the bells yesterday were members of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, who have been preparing the tower for its new residents.

Visitors can view the bells at the church this weekend.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

## Rock Legend - a free CD

The Sunday Times Music Collection continues tomorrow with a free CD packed with tracks from some of rock's most enduring icons.

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Clapton and The Small Faces is the third CD in the superb Music Collection series, which builds to give readers of The Sunday Times 48 exclusive free CDs, ranging from the classical to the contemporary...

For full details see The Culture - in The Sunday Times tomorrow



Two Arnhem veterans, the Rev Ray Bowers and George Sheldrake, shelter from the rain yesterday

## Old soldiers pay final tribute to fallen comrades

FROM JOHN YOUNG IN ARNHEM

THIS time it was not too far. Preceded by a thunderous artillery salute, and led by their disabled comrades in wheelchairs, the old soldiers of Arnhem walked in silence last night from the town hall to the foot of the bridge which the First Airborne Division heroically failed to capture 50 years ago today.

There, they gathered round their monument, a broken column from the ruins of the former Palace of Justice destroyed in the fighting. The standards of the Parachute Regiment were raised aloft while the flags of the Netherlands, Britain, Poland, the United States and Canada flew at half mast.

After the sounding of the Last Post and the two minutes' silence, the band of the Netherlands military chapel played solemn hymns as one by one wreaths were laid around the foot of the monument and finally local children laid bunches of flowers.

As the five national anthems were played the flags were dipped in salute and then raised to the top of their poles. With rain clouds again threatening, the strains of *Abide With Me* were carried away on the cold breeze.

Three days and nights of almost non-stop heavy rain had done little to dampen the spirits of the thousands of British veterans, widows and families attending the four days of commemoration.

Unless the cloud lifts, however, prospects are dim for the mass parachute drop scheduled to take place this morning in the presence of the Prince of Wales. Alternative arrangements have been made to stage the jump on Sunday afternoon, but at the Dutch parachute centre at Teuge some 20 miles north of here instead of the original dropping zone near Woithene.

Both the airborne museum at Oosterbeek and the cemetery half a mile away, where more than 1,300 British soldiers and airmen are buried, were crowded yesterday. Many of the visitors were elderly men sporting the famous crimson beret but there were also large numbers of local people whose admiration for the sacrifices of the 1st Airborne Division remains undimmed after half a century.



ry. Their gratitude is all the more remarkable in view of the expedition's failure and the revenge wreaked by the Germans, who afterwards drove the citizens of Arnhem from their homes and all but razed the city to the ground.

The British have responded with a new monument opened this week and dedicated to the people of Gelderland. "Fifty years ago British and Polish airborne soldiers fought here against overwhelming odds to open the way into Germany and bring the war to an end," the inscription reads. "Instead we brought death and destruction for which you have never blamed us."

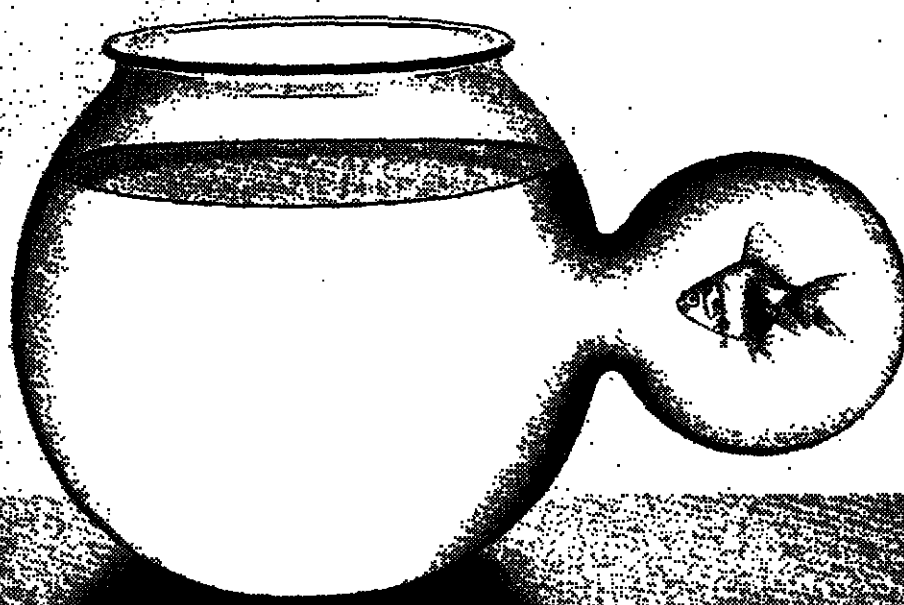
Among the veterans at the museum yesterday was Lieutenant Richard Bingley, who served in the 1st Parachute Battalion in North Africa, Sicily, Italy and then Arnhem, where he was shot in the ankle and later driven with his comrades from the house they were defending when the Germans attacked.

Former Colour Sergeant Eric Seal landed on September 18, 1944, in a glider carrying a Jeep and two trailers, ammunition and mortar bombs. But before the crew could unload, it received a direct hit from a shell and was destroyed. For a week he lived on one bar of emergency chocolate, a rusty tin of condensed milk and a mice-infested packet of oats. "I can still remember how hungry I felt," he said.

Lieutenant Eric Vere-Davies said yesterday: "Our intention had been to stroll in and take over the bridge and be welcomed by a lot of delighted civilians. But suddenly we found that there were a lot of nasty Germans and we had to fight them."

Weekend, page 1  
Leading article, page 17

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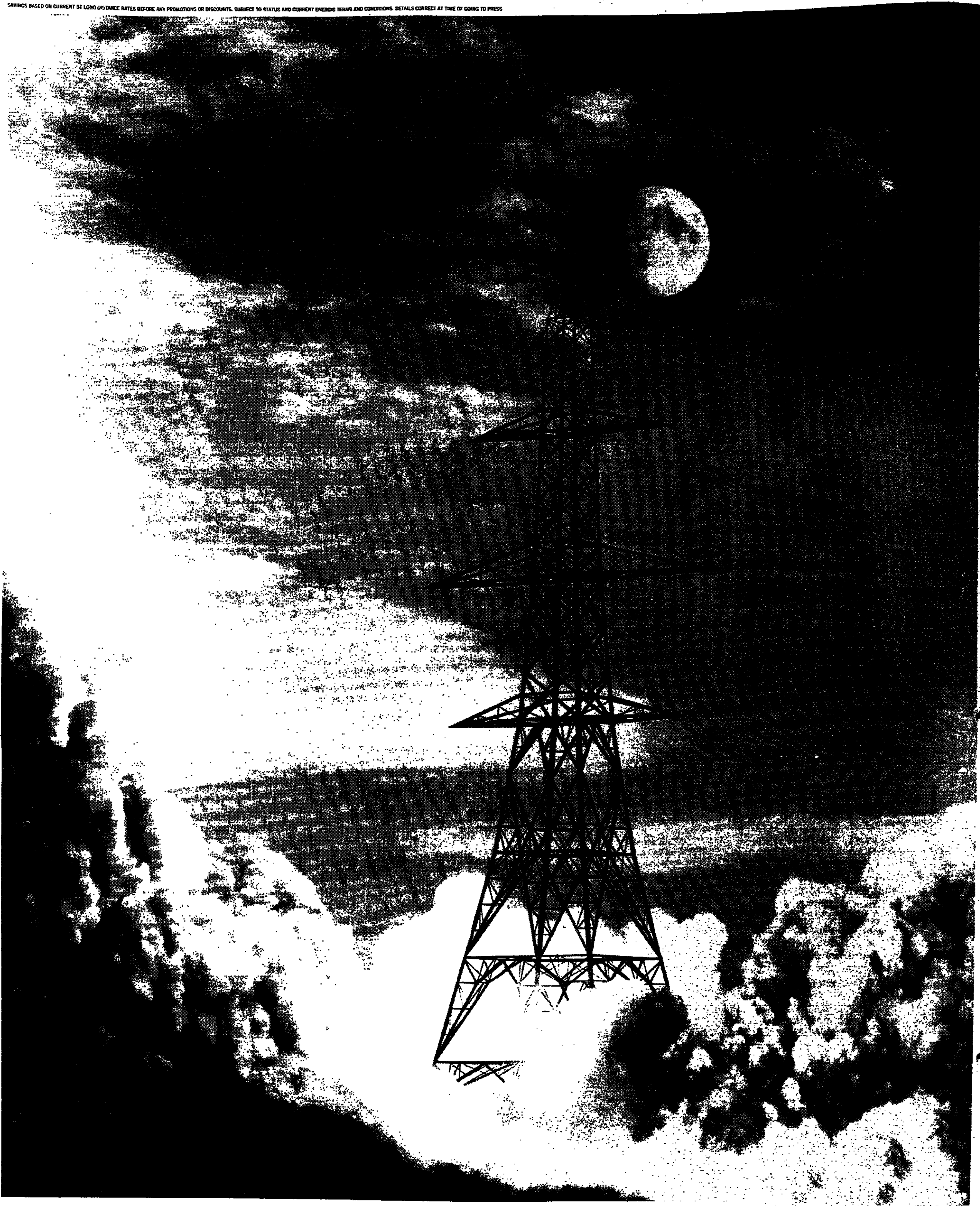


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## Major hails lottery as key to a better life for millions

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY  
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT  
AND ANJANA ABUJA

JOHN Major hailed a "spectacular" new era of British creativity and national pride yesterday, created by the National Lottery.

The Prime Minister gave an enthusiastic endorsement of the lottery, which starts in November, and predicted that it would "unlock the door to a higher quality of life for millions of people". His speech in the English Heritage Conference in London, which echoed his past vision of a "classless society", concentrated heavily on the need for the lottery to offer benefits to everyone.

"The lottery gives us the biggest chance anyone has ever had of making a significant, permanent difference," he said. "I am sure that this is a vision which will stir the hearts of many, whatever their background, age or interests."

## Lloyd Webber to unlock churches

BY KATHRYN KNIGHT

SIR Andrew Lloyd Webber has pledged £1 million to establish the Open Churches Trust, which will provide funding to enable churches of architectural merit to remain open to the public.

After discussions with English Heritage, Sir Andrew launched the fund to provide grant aid for churches of all denominations.

Sir Andrew said he was frustrated by the closed doors of many of Britain's churches. "When I was at school in Westminster, many churches in the area were open to the public, so I developed an interest in architecture from the accessibility of these buildings. Many of them are now closed. I hope I can kick-start development in an area I care for very deeply."

The Open Churches Trust will begin as a three-year experiment, with a pilot scheme targeting churches in the Liverpool, northeast London and Suffolk areas in operation by Easter. John Gummer, Frank Field and David Alton have already expressed an interest in being administrative trustees.

Earlier, at a conference to mark the tenth anniversary of English Heritage, Jocelyn Stevens, the chairman, said: "The historical architectural and local importance of ecclesiastical buildings is beyond calculation."

As he unveiled plans for England's historical sites, Mr

The Prime Minister believes that enthusiasm for the National Lottery can sweep Britain into the new millennium on a wave of creativity and national pride

Every man and woman in this country can be a direct beneficiary, not just the great and the good.

"There will be local transformations as well as international prestige projects. I am keen to ensure, as far as possible, that far more of our citizens have access to those intangible good things of life."

He predicted that the lottery would pump £9 billion into thousands of projects in its first seven years - including about £1.6 billion in its peak year - as well as offering weekly prizes of up to £2 million.

He insisted that Britain needed to look forward as well

as backwards in creating a heritage for future generations. He talked enthusiastically about his expectations for the lottery which will fund projects in five categories: arts, sport, heritage, charities and the Millennium Fund.

Mr Major underlined his determination to ensure that the lottery captured the public imagination. He called for a "national outbreak of lateral thinking" to generate Millennium Fund projects on the scale of Sydney Opera House and the Eiffel Tower. "We are at the beginning of a period which can be uniquely exciting for all those of us who care deeply about the long-term quality of life in this country."

The National Lottery is expected to be one of the biggest in the world, creating a millionaire a week. Camelot, which holds the operating licence until 2001, forecasts that it will have raised £32 billion by that time and has promised £50 million clear profit in the first year.

Half the money raised by lottery ticket sales will go on prizes, 28 per cent will go to the five "good causes", 12 per cent to the Treasury, 5 per cent to Camelot for operating costs and profits and 5 per cent to the ticket retailers. Unclaimed jackpots will be carried over to the following week, up to a total of £15 million.

About a third of the population is expected to participate, bringing more than 20 million hopefuls to the television set each week for the draw. Prizes start at £10 and the odds of winning a prize are 54:1, significantly lower than in spot-the-ball competitions.

Tickets will go on sale in November, with the first draw scheduled to take place on BBC1 on November 19. Scratch cards will be available from next spring. Although 16-year-olds cannot do the football pools, place bets with a bookmaker or gamble in casinos, they will be able to buy lottery tickets.

Britain is the only European country not to have a national lottery and its effect on the nation's - other gambling favourites is difficult to gauge. The football pools, which currently attract 18 million people a week, are advertising heavily to counter the threat.

Premium bonds, which are owned by half the population, are unlikely to suffer, although the odds of winning the jackpot with a £1 bond are 40 billion to one.

## British force to help dependency cope with tide of Cuban refugees



Alan Whicker with a Metropolitan Police officer dispatched to Anguilla in 1969. The officers adhered strictly to a dress code demanding collar and tie

## Police prepare to fly out to Cayman Islands

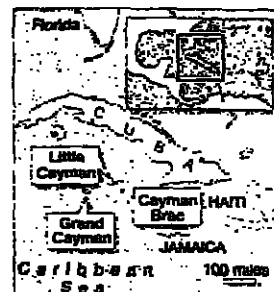
BY STEWART TENDLER  
AND BEN MCINTYRE

TWO HUNDRED British police officers are preparing to fly to the Cayman Islands and to join local police controlling rising numbers of Cuban refugees.

The British officers, trained in enforcing public order, could be used to repatriate forcibly Cubans not considered to be political refugees who refuse to return home voluntarily.

The decision to go ahead with the Caribbean mission will be taken in the coming days. Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, has given outline approval for the police to be used after a request to the Foreign Office for help from Michael Gore, the governor, and Alan Radcliffe, commissioner of the 240-strong local force. In 1969 a large detachment of British police officers was landed on Anguilla to restore order.

Yesterday, John Abbott, an assistant inspector of constabulary, and Commander Tom Laidlaw, a Scotland Yard crowd control expert, were in the Caymans assessing the situation with three Yard public-order planners. A hundred of the officers will come from the Metropolitan Police, with the rest

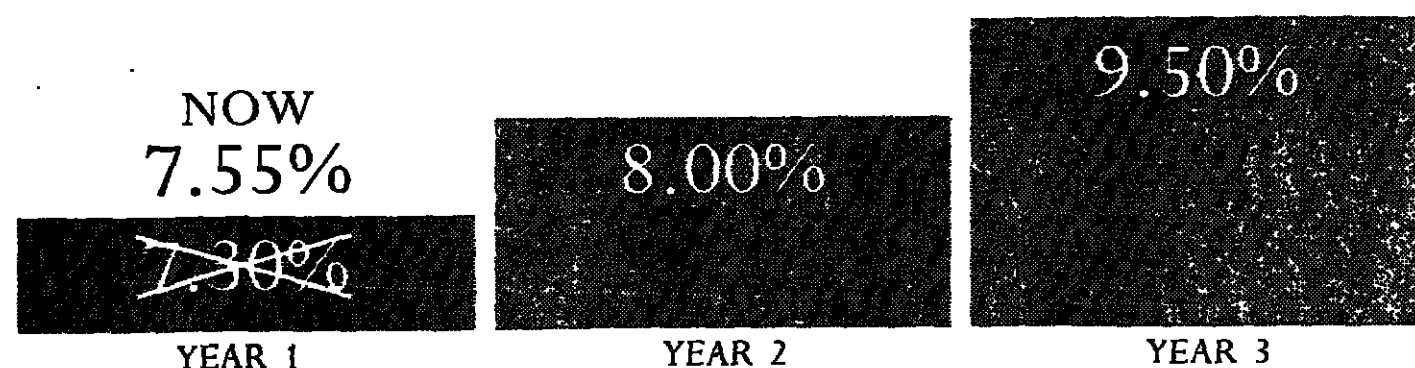


drawn from Greater Manchester, the West Midlands, Merseyside and West Yorkshire. The mission will be paid for by the Caymans, a dependency, through the Foreign Office.

The Foreign Office said: "The recent exodus of Cubans has had a direct and serious impact on the Cayman Islands. The numbers have increased dramatically in the past two weeks." Since Cuban police began patrolling the north coast of Cuba to prevent rafts of refugees heading to the United States, after the agreement between Washington and Havana to restrict illegal immigration, refugees have been leaving in increasing numbers from the largely unsupervised south coast, heading for islands such as Jamaica and the Caymans.

Leading article, page 17

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## Son of death crash couple kills himself

A teacher was found dead in a fume-filled car hours after being told his parents were killed in a head-on car crash with a lorry. Gareth Griffiths, 24, died at the family bungalow with photographs of his parents propped up on the car dashboard.

Ron Griffiths, 62, and Evelyn, 61, were on a weekly trip from Pentre, Mid Glamorgan, to a market garden.

## Murder Trial

Robert Napper, 28, a machine operator of Plumstead, southeast London, has been sent for trial at the Old Bailey accused of murdering Samantha Bisset, 27, and her daughter Jasmine, 4, at their flat in Plumstead.

## Coat robbery

A 16-year-old boy was held up at gunpoint in the street for his £200 jacket. A white man aged about 19 leapt out of a car at North Reddish, Greater Manchester and fled after taking the anorak.

## Medals stolen

Ally MacLeod, former Scotland football manager, has urged burglars who stole his soccer medals not to melt them down. They include a 1960 FA Cup runners-up medal for Blackburn Rovers.

## Cashier fooled

A bogus policeman fooled a bingo cashier into opening the hall in Glasgow and robbed the safe of several thousand pounds. The woman was dumped on the city's outskirts.





# Co-op tomato veto signals setback for gene-altered foods

BY NICK NUTTALL  
TECHNOLOGY  
CORRESPONDENT

PLANS to sell genetically engineered foods and crops have suffered a serious setback with one of Britain's biggest supermarket chains refusing to stock products made from gene-altered tomatoes.

Zeneca, the British seed company behind the fruit, has filed an application seeking a government licence to begin selling products such as tomato paste and ketchup.

However, the Co-op, with 2,500 food outlets, said it would refuse to stock goods made from the tomatoes. The fruit, which has been modified against rotting, is the first genetically engineered plant for which firms have sought commercialisation in Britain.

If the product proves successful it could pave the way for a string of novel crops, many of which are undergoing tests in fields across the country, including potatoes,

Genetically modified tomatoes are now on sale in America, but British bioengineers are meeting resistance from retailers to products made from the 'super' fruit

wheat, bananas and corn which have been modified for bigger yields, pest resistance and better cooking properties.

The Advisory Committee on Novel Foods and Processes, which advises the Agriculture Ministry, will discuss the application on September 21. Experts are confident that the tomato, which has been approved in the United States for sale as fresh produce, will get the go-ahead for use in pastes, sauces, ketchup or tins of cooked tomatoes here.

Martin Henderson, a spokesman for the Co-op, said yesterday: "We were recently given a presentation by Zeneca on the pastes but we have rejected the product. They believe the product tastes better, but we did not. We

were not convinced that genetically modified tomatoes are in any way an improvement on existing product. Where genetics has a contribution to make and is in the consumer's interest, then we will go along with it."

Dr Nigel Poole of Zeneca, which is also testing genetically altered sunflowers, said yesterday that the Co-op's decision was not significant. "The majority of people who have tasted the paste believe it has consumer benefits. We are very proud of it."

The Co-op believes all such produce should be labelled and is committed to banning any foods in which human genes have been used.

However, other supermarket chains have not yet fol-



Dr Nigel Poole of Zeneca: "Most people who have tasted the tomato paste believe it has consumer benefits. We are very proud of it"

lowed the Co-op's strong line and are awaiting government guidelines on labelling. Most of the chains, including Sainsbury's and Safeway, confirmed they were studying the gene-altered tomatoes and a spokesman for Safeway said they would stock products only if a clear consumer benefit could be shown.

Their enthusiasm to back the Zeneca product will also

depend on their customers, who have already voiced strong opposition to bovine somatotrophin (BST), a hormone made by genetic engineering which can boost milk production in cows.

Monsanto, the US biotechnology company, is pressing for a European licence but the British Retail Federation, backed by organisations including the Milk Marketing

Board and the RSPCA, is campaigning against it.

In May, the American government's Food and Drug Administration gave Calgene, a California company, approval to produce and market fresh, gene modified tomatoes which they call Flavr Savers. Jeff Bergau, a Calgene spokesman, said: "Folks are not happy with the quality and taste of tomatoes currently

available. We are offering tomatoes that taste the way tomatoes should."

The wrangle highlights growing concern over public acceptance of genetically altered crops. A genetically altered rape seed, which has been given provisional marketing consent by the Department of the Environment's advisory committee on releases to the environment, is

being scrutinised by approval bodies in Europe.

Gene altered crops, including the tomato, carry "marker" genes which show the alteration has worked. But scientists fear these genes, which as a side effect give antibiotic resistance, could undermine human and animal health by making gut bacteria in people and cows immune to drugs.



The Dix Pit finds have included mammoth tusks

## Tusk find revises weather chart

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

THE discovery of a tooth from a straight-tusked elephant at an Oxfordshire gravel pit has proved that the climate in Britain 220,000 years ago was much warmer than previously supposed.

The site, Dix Pit at Stanton Harcourt, has also yielded bones of the woolly mammoth, horse, bison, and hyena. The most spectacular finds are mammoth tusks ten feet long. At least 34 tusks have been recovered from the site, which also contains human artifacts showing that early man lived alongside the mammoths.

The straight-tusked elephant was found in Britain only during the warmer, interglacial periods - further evidence that 220,000 years ago the site was warm, forested and probably warmer

than it is today. ARC, a subsidiary of Hanson Plc, which owns the site, announced the award of a grant of £27,000 yesterday to enable Dr Katherine Scott of St Cross College Oxford to continue excavations. With volunteers from Earthwatch, an international scientific organisation, she intends to spend another two years on research.

The site is important to palaeontologists because it contains such a wide range of mammals, fish, insects and birds, as well as pollen, seeds, nuts and even vegetation that has been recovered in remarkably fresh condition. Roots and branches of beech, hazel and oak have been found, including a ten foot oak log lying under a mammoth tusk.



By RAYMOND KEENE  
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

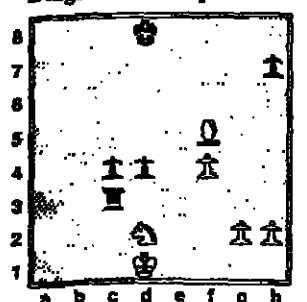
### British triumph in Zurich

London grandmaster Julian Hodgson has scored one of his greatest international triumphs, winning first prize in the Zurich tournament by a margin of two points. At the conclusion of the event, Hodgson has scored 9 points (7 wins, 4 draws, no losses), coming in ahead of the Icelandic grandmaster Petursson with 7 points. In the following game, Hodgson wins with his favourite opening.

White: Julian Hodgson  
Black: Schlosser  
Zurich, September 1994  
Trompovsky Attack

- |    |     |      |
|----|-----|------|
| 1  | d4  | Nf6  |
| 2  | Bg5 | c5   |
| 3  | Bd5 | g6   |
| 4  | d5  | Qb6  |
| 5  | Qc1 | h5   |
| 6  | c4  | Bg7  |
| 7  | Nc3 | Qb4  |
| 8  | Qd3 | d6   |
| 9  | h4  | Nd7  |
| 10 | Nf3 | Nb6  |
| 11 | Nd2 | Bd7  |
| 12 | Bd3 | Bxc3 |

Diagram of final position



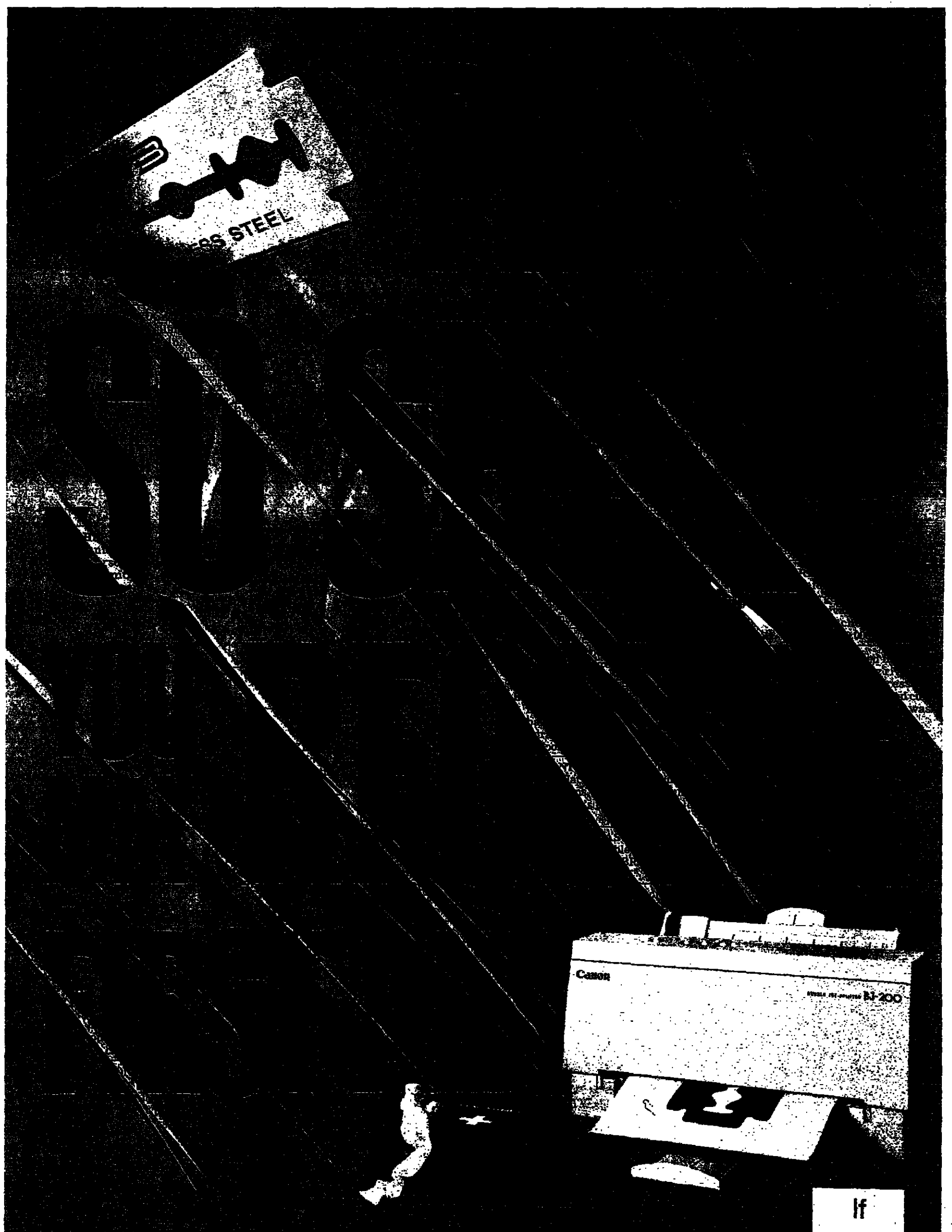
### Kasparov wins

World champion Garry Kasparov was also dominant in the top section at Zurich. His final score was an unbeaten 8.5 points out of 11 ahead of Artur Yusupov (Russia) and Alexei Shirov (Latvia) on 7. Britain's representative in the top group, grandmaster Tony Miles, scored 4 points out of 11 and finished in a share for tenth place.

### Karpov fright

In the mass open tournament at Tilburg, Fide champion Anatoly Karpov suffered an early fright when he lost a game to the former Yugoslav grandmaster Bojan Kurajica. Karpov immediately struck back, winning the second game to force a play-off and then qualified for the third round. Britain's Jon Speelman was eliminated by the Russian grandmaster Vladimir Tuk-makov.

Winning Move, page 48



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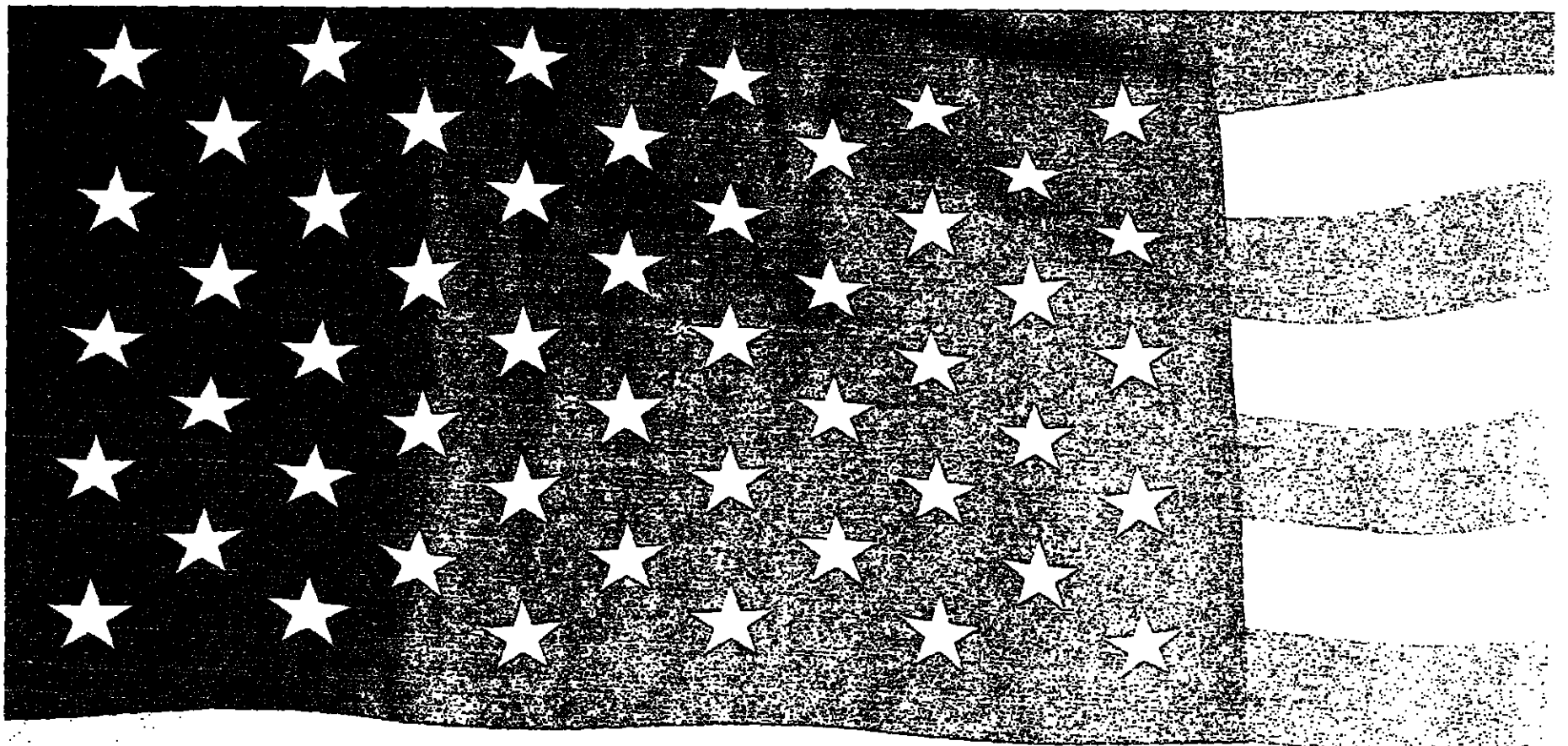
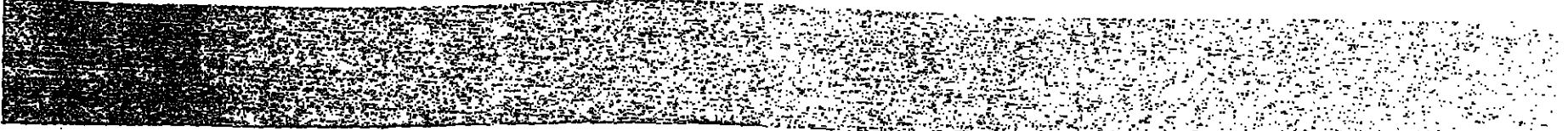
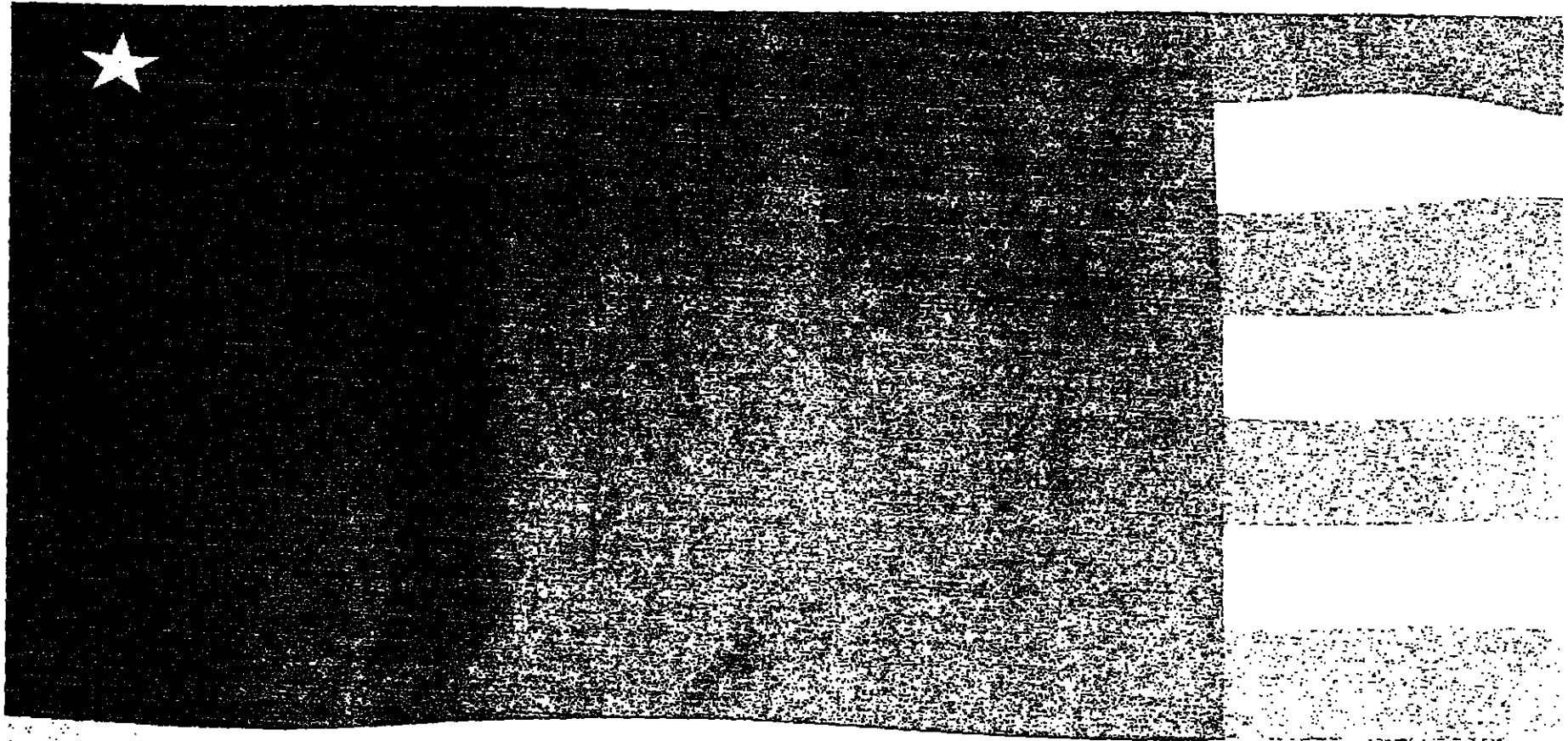
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# Major's sport team aims to restore hope in township

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN ALEXANDRA TOWNSHIP

LESS than three years ago, the cricket ground in this smog-covered township north of Johannesburg was a rubbish dump surrounded by corrugated iron shacks and matchbox houses. That was before the site was transformed by funds from the British Government.

Appropriately it is here, during his state visit to Johannesburg next week, that John Major will be aiming to give a shot in the arm to black sport in South Africa. While business leaders with him are examining investment prospects, the Prime Minister and his team of accompanying sports stars are intending to bolster sporting ties and encourage young black athletes.

The idea of establishing a cricket pitch in Alexandra followed a request from Ali Bacher, South Africa's leading cricket administrator, during a visit by Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, to the town-

ship in 1991. Alexandra was a natural choice for the project. On a hill east of Santon, one of Johannesburg's wealthiest white suburbs, during the apartheid years it had a population of about 700,000 crammed into an area two miles square containing just one community centre, a cinema and a leisure centre. With an unemployment rate of about 45 per cent and a volatile ethnic mix, the township has been the scene of horrific political violence.

Against this background, the cricket club and a nearby recreation centre have been a godsend for local youths. British and corporate sponsorship facilities have been expanded to include a football pitch, a gym and a basketball court. Vusi Thabathe, 39, chairman of the Alexandra All Sports Congress, is convinced the recreation centre has played a vital part in reducing crime and violence in Alexan-

dra. "If young men are participating in sport, they will not go out and commit crime," he says. "Sport has helped to restore individual self-esteem. We have seen a direct link between an increase in sports activity and the fall in crime in the township."

Building on that success, the British assistance he announced next week includes a "football in the community" project under which township youths will be able to attend coaching sessions organised through South Africa's big football clubs.

The British Government, in co-operation with the Sports Council, will also fund training of athletics coaches so a group of around 200 can be deployed around the country. It is hoped that the British project will boost the sporting development of blacks who are under-represented in the country's national teams. These plans are in line with



Alexandra's cricket oval, built with a £20,000 British donation, at which John Major is to announce a huge investment in South African sport

the sports development policy of the African National Congress. Steve Tshwete, the Minister of Sport, trumpets the message that sport is the biggest healer in a country divided by race and culture. A promising rugby player with aspirations to provincial col-

ours before he was imprisoned on Robben Island in 1964, Mr Tshwete has played a central role in South Africa's return to international sport. He has announced plans for a sports development trust, a sports academy and nationwide development programmes. "In-

vestment in sport immediately becomes an investment in the country," he said recently. "If people were united through sport there would be less friction on the shopfloor."

If his plans are to be fulfilled, it is essential that black sport should become

self-sufficient, and that will not be easy. The Alexandra recreation centre is a case in point. A corporate sponsorship contract expires later this year and without money from membership fees — which local residents are unable to afford — the management

must find alternative ways of raising revenue.

"We cannot go on behaving like beggars," Mr Thabathe says. "If we are going to sustain black sport and dictate our lives in a new South Africa the black community must learn to stand on its own feet."

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## Liberians beat and strip coup general

FROM REUTERS IN MONROVIA

LIBERIAN civilians yesterday captured and beat the disguised leader of a failed coup attempt and handed him over to African intervention troops.

General Charles Jule, the chief of the former armed forces of Liberia, and about 100 disgruntled soldiers had seized the West African country's administrative centre on Thursday, but they were forced out by the African force. Relief sources said that General Jule, hated by most Liberians for his suppression of unrest under former President Samuel Doe, and one of his men managed to escape the heavy bombardment.

Witnesses said, however, that he was recognised by civilians near the American Embassy in Monrovia, the Liberian capital, yesterday morning, despite being dressed in Arab robes and head-dress. Passers-by beat him and stripped him before handing him over to an African patrol. He was later seen crouched naked and handcuffed at the headquarters of the African intervention forces. His fighters are believed to have made their way back to their barracks.

Liberia's national army is now little more than a tribal militia, and it is split over the country's latest peace treaty, signed on Monday in Ghana. General Hekziah Bowe, the chief of staff, has been branded a traitor by army officers for signing the deal.

Charles Taylor, the leader of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia which launched the civil war in December 1989 to overthrow Doe, who was tortured to death in 1990, crossed back into Liberia from Ivory Coast on Tuesday after the signing in Ghana. He is, however, battling to overcome a powerful group of dissidents in his own group, which has taken over his headquarters in the inland town of Gbarnga.

In Geneva, a concerned United Nations refugee agency said about 34,000 Liberians had fled to Guinea and 3,500 to Ivory Coast to escape the fighting. It said up to 25,000 more were heading to Guinea.

## US envoy leaves Somalia

Mogadishu: Daniel Simpson, the American envoy to Somalia, flew to Nairobi on Thursday night, ending the official US presence there as Washington's attention shifts to Haiti (Sara Kiley writes).

United Nations peacekeepers are preparing for looting and attacks on their compounds in Somalia by clan militias who have fought fierce battles over who should control the best positions for the assaults.

## Angola blast

Luanda: Two people died and 32 were injured when an army ammunition dump exploded at the Angolan town of Lubango, cutting off power and badly damaging the industrial area. (Reuters)

## Briton jailed

Los Angeles: Philip Bowers, 34, of Saxmundham, Suffolk, was jailed for four months and banned from California for three years after pleading "no contest" to a charge of stalking a woman of 35. (AP)

## Poverty trap

Kigali: The World Bank says that under its rules it cannot release up to \$250 million (£163 million) in loans to Rwanda until the Rwandan government pays off \$3.75 million in arrears. (Reuters)

## Taiwan quake

Taipei: An earthquake measuring 6.4 on the Richter scale rocked Taiwan and was felt as far away as Hong Kong but there were no reports of damage or injuries. (Reuters)

## Plague scare

Bombay: A house-to-house sweep has begun in Maharashtra state to detect bubonic plague after a man with symptoms of the disease died east of here. (AFP)

## Ginseng tonic

Peking: A Chinese farmer has made his fortune from a 600-year-old ginseng root that he sold for 1.8 million yuan (£136,000). Ginseng is used in restorative medicines and tonics. (Reuters)

## Minister 'resigns' after dispute with Arafat

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

AHMED Korei, also known as Abu Alaa, was reported yesterday to have resigned as Minister of Trade and Economics in the 24-member Palestinian National Authority. He stepped down after a dispute with Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

A senior PLO official said Mr Korei resigned a week ago but that talks were in progress to try to resolve the matter. The official added that Mr Korei would not attend today's meeting of the authority.

Mr Korei refused to comment. Unless he is persuaded to stay, he will become the first member of the authority to resign since it was appointed as part of the self-rule deal with Israel.

Mr Korei played a leading

role in the secret negotiations in Norway that led to the peace accord with Israel that was signed in Washington a year ago. This week, PLO sources said he handed in his notice when Mr Arafat appointed Nabil Shaath, another PLO figure, to attend a finance meeting in Paris last Friday which collapsed in a dispute over cash for projects in Jerusalem.

His resignation was reported by the official Palestinian news agency in a report from Gaza. It came as the PLO was facing a serious funding crisis that has prevented it from paying municipal salaries. Senior Israelis have described the PLO's financial difficulties as a threat to the whole future of the fragile peace deal.

US envoy deadline to leave



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# Invasion force poised to seize Haiti in 'a matter of hours, at most a day or two'

## US envoy delivers deadline for junta to leave country

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Clinton has ordered the US Ambassador to Port-au-Prince to give Haiti's three military leaders a deadline for leaving their country with American help or to face arrest in the invasion. William Swing, the Ambassador, was instructed to deliver personally the ultimatum to General Raoul Cédras, General Philippe Biamby and Colonel Michel François. American officials would not reveal the precise deadline but indicated that they would know by tonight whether the invasion was on or off. It was also revealed yesterday that Mr Clinton authorised a \$12-million (£8 million) covert operation to topple the junta earlier this month. This included CIA attempts to recruit and arm "friendly elements" within the Haitian armed forces, but

critics said the operation began too late to have much chance of success. Former President Bush and General Norman Schwarzkopf, the Gulf War commander, added their voices to the widespread condemnation of Mr Clinton's planned military intervention, but the President showed no signs of backing down. William Perry, the Defence Secretary, said the huge force massing off Haiti was now "ready to go" and that the invasion itself would take "a matter of hours, at most a day or two". Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State, said Jean-Bertrand Aristide, Haiti's ousted President, would return within "a week or two" of the invasion. Later yesterday Mr Clinton was briefing Mr Aristide at the White House as well as representatives of the two



American protesters demonstrating against the planned invasion outside the White House yesterday

## Labour questions wisdom of British support

By ALICE THOMPSON  
POLITICAL REPORTER

THE Government was coming under pressure last night to justify Britain's involvement in the proposed American-led invasion of Haiti. The Labour Party said it had grave reservations about the need for Britain to send two ships with 300 men to join a multinational force and questioned the wisdom and timing of the military action. The Liberal Democrats and several Tory backbench MPs have also warned the Government against getting involved. Malcolm Rifkind, the Defence Secretary, defended British participation, however, and emphasised that no British ground troops would be landing in Haiti. "Haiti is an area of considerable tension, and Britain with dependencies in the West Indies has a direct interest in being involved in the operation," he said. He was supported by Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary. Speaking from Hong Kong, where he ended an official visit yesterday, Mr Hurd said: "We support the UN resolution under which President Clinton is acting. We have made it clear that we believe that it is justified." However, Dr David Clark, the Labour shadow Defence Secretary, said: "British forces are overstretched, due to our heavy commitment to the UN operations in Bosnia where the United States is not." Jack Cunningham, the shadow Foreign Secretary, called for economic and diplomatic action rather than military prowess to ensure the return to office of Jean-Bertrand Aristide, the ousted Haitian leader. "There is no guarantee that military means will ensure President Aristide's long-term security in Haiti, and the use of force is bound to have a very unsettling effect on the Caribbean and Haiti. The Government has given us no indication as to why Britain has to be militarily involved in this American plan."



Cédras: has been offered safe passage by Washington

dozen countries contributing to either the invasion or subsequent peacekeeping forces. Mr Clinton's biggest problem was not international support, however, but the glaring lack of domestic backing. One prominent American commentator likened his appeal for support on Thursday night to speaking into "the teeth of a howling political gale". A snap poll afterwards showed opposition to the invasion fell from 73 to 60 per cent, but there was no sign that he had eroded the overwhelming resistance in Congress. The House of Representatives looks set to vote against the use of force on Monday, leaving Mr Clinton to order the invasion before then or to delay Congress. Mr Bush called Mr Clinton's rationale for invading "mind-boggling". General Schwarzkopf said he did not know "one thing in Haiti that's worth the life of an American serviceman". Paul Gigot, *The Wall Street Journal* columnist, said the President was sliding towards "the most unpopular use of force since the Vietnam War he opposed as a young man". Even Mr Clinton's old allies in Vietnam-era anti-war organisations said he had betrayed them. Mr Clinton used his nationally-televised address to appeal both to America's conscience and its economic self-interest. He also said the United States had already spent nearly \$200 million on Haitian boat people and that 300,000 more Haitians would soon be on their way if Washington did not act. He promised the American mission would be limited and the vast majority of troops would be "home within months". He also announced that Mr Aristide had promised to step down when his term officially ends in early 1996.

Clinton cancels trip, page 1

## Clinton 'tyrant' jibe angers Britons

FROM IAN BRODIE  
IN WASHINGTON

WHEN in doubt, bash the Brits. That, at least, was President Clinton's recipe for ending his televised Oval Office address to his "fellow Americans" on why Haiti should be invaded. He compared the British of more than 200 years ago to Haiti's dictators, provoking indignation among Washington's British community. "My father was stomping about in a rage," said the daughter of one Briton. Mr Clinton conceded that many people believed America should not help

Haiti to restore democracy and that Haitians should accept violence and repression as their fate. "But remember, the same was said of a people who ... took up arms against a tyrant whose forces occupied their land," he said, referring to the War of Independence against British colonial rule. "They were a stubborn bunch," the President continued, "a people who fought for their freedoms and appealed to all those who believed in democracy to help their cause. Their cries were answered and a new nation was born, a nation that ever since has believed that the rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness should be denied to none." Britons here thought it shabby to recall the days of George III, given that Britain will contribute a frigate, a refuelling tanker and instructors to the multinational force supporting America in Haiti. Ironically, Republicans who oppose the invasion were also invoking the name of George III. They said that, by refusing to consult Congress in advance, Mr Clinton was acting with the same imperiousness as the monarch whose rule the "stubborn bunch" fought against.

## Champagne set of Bar Bolero scorn Uncle Sam's armada

FROM TOM RHODES IN PORT-AU-PRINCE

As American aircraft reinforced President Clinton's words by demonstrating their might in the skies above Port-au-Prince yesterday, Haiti's ruling class predicted a bloodbath if American troops attempted to invade the Caribbean nation. The planes, which had dropped boxes of transistor radios the previous evening, flew regularly over the Haitian capital, while US warships were clearly visible off the coast. The radios were intended to help the local population to be kept informed by tuning into American broadcasts beamed at Haiti. One US naval patrol boat apparently ran aground in the harbour, in what appeared to be an inauspicious start to the proposed invasion, though some said the craft's presence may have been an elaborate ruse by the Americans. For some in Port-au-Prince and the other more developed suburbs of Port-au-Prince, the prospect of military intervention remains inconceivable. "How can they invade us? What possible reason do they have? What is this national interest Mr Clinton speaks of?" asked Pierre Lassèque, captain of the port, as he listened to the presidential address on his radio. "I tell you this is just a Hollywood show. If they come in, and I still do not believe they will, it will be a bloodbath. We may

be small in numbers but we are well prepared." Captain Lassèque claimed that thousands of foreign soldiers are standing by to assist Haiti's 8,000-strong army and that 60,000 civilians have been trained for the coming showdown. Few of his colleagues, sipping champagne at the Bar Bolero, believed him but they were nevertheless happy to hear such fighting talk.

In fact, precedent shows that the soldiers will probably melt into the hinterland once the Americans arrive; the actual occupation of the capital will probably take a matter of hours. It is after that, say experts, that the difficulties will start.

Haiti has a strong tradition of *marouage*, or hiding, and

## Creole has last word

Paris: Creole, the official language of Haiti since 1987, is not a dialect of French as, for example, Jamaican is of English (Charles Brenner writes). Evolved from French of the 17th and 18th centuries, Creole has absorbed so many terms and forms from Spanish, African dialects, English and other tongues that it constitutes a separate language, opaque to a standard French speaker without some instruc-

tion. For example, "Comment ça va?" (How are you?) is "Qui manien?" in Creole. "Pas de problème" is "Pani problème". The guardians of global French in Paris are in two minds about Creole. Some see it as a corrupted form of French, a "patois des nègres". Others consider it in its own right, expressing the culture of French-speaking Caribbean and Indian Ocean islands.

seems, is over. President Clinton has beaten the war drums once too often to now cut a deal with the junta — although there were rumours yesterday that Jimmy Carter, the former President and America's all-purpose ambassador at large, had made an offer of \$10 million (£6.6 million) for the regime to stand down.

Edwige Kenn, a close confidant of General Cédras, said that he would not resign and was sure that, this time, Uncle Sam meant business. "It has to happen," she said. "This has gone too far, as we are at war. Although I still find it impossible that a country the size of America is willing to invade our small nation."

Those denounced by the last American Ambassador to Haiti as the "Morally Repugnant Elite" (MRE) — the acronym previously used to describe combat rations, meals ready to eat — were unable to understand how Mr Clinton could accuse their country of having an appalling human rights record when people in New York and Washington sleep rough and are murdered every day in the streets.

They believe that Jean-Bertrand Aristide, the ousted President, will offer no better solution than the army has so far done to resolve the grinding poverty and oppression that mark so much of Haiti.

## Pizzeria serves up drugs coup for FBI

FROM BEN MACINTYRE  
IN NEW YORK

BENEATH the thin crust of respectability at Famous Original Ray's Pizza parlour in Manhattan lurked one of the largest drug dealing operations in the world, according to the FBI. At dawn on Thursday 200 armed agents raided the restaurant as 79 suspected drug traffickers were arrested in New York and Italy. The pizzeria on 43rd street was the organising centre for an international conspiracy involving the Calabrian, Neapolitan and Sicilian mafias, the authorities said. "Tens of millions of dollars each year in cocaine and heroin have gone back

and forth across the ocean between the United States and Italy," said William Gavin, New York's FBI director. This is not the first time that the city's pizza parlours have been linked to the drugs trade. In the early 1980s agents unravelled the Pizza Connection, in which heroin was distributed through restaurants in New York, New Jersey and Long Island. Pizza Connection II, however, is far more sophisticated and lucrative with drugs imported from Colombia and transported to Italy and other European countries. A kilogram of cocaine sells for around £39,000 in Italy, more than three times the value in New York. The 79 suspects arrested in New York and Italy on Thursday were allegedly

members of three Italian mafia clans. "Not only have we eliminated three major narcotics networks, but the investigation has gone a long way to reduce the power of Italian organised crime groups," Mr Gavin said. For three years the FBI has been tapping the telephones at Ray's pizzeria and discovered that when the restaurant received orders for "extra mozzarella", "jackets" and "cars", these were referring to drug shipments. While most of the profits at Ray's may have come from narcotics, the owners, identified as the Ambrosio brothers, did not neglect their cuisine. "It's weird," one customer said as she sampled Famous Original Ray's legal product. "But their pizza's good".

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# Delhi offers Kashmiris election path to self-rule

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

INDIA intends to hold elections in Kashmir for the first time in eight years to try to restore democracy to its only state with a Muslim majority. Thousands of people have died in the separatist uprising there since 1989 and tens of thousands of troops will almost certainly have to be deployed to protect voters.

The government is prepared to grant substantial autonomy to the state, which had exceptional powers to run its own affairs until 1953, in the hope of persuading some of the many militant organisations in the Kashmir Valley to renounce violence in favour of the political process.

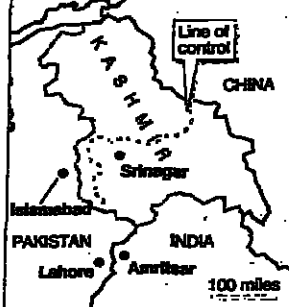
Pakistan-backed groups will oppose elections, but the secular Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front, the valley's most popular group, has hinted that it may be ready to lay down its arms. The front began the uprising in support of independence five years ago, but groups funded by Pakistan and other Islamic nations have since hijacked it.

Most elections in the Indian-controlled part of Kashmir

have been rigged by state politicians, sometimes with the connivance of Delhi, and the authorities will be hard-pressed to convince Kashmiris that this one will be different. Foreign observers are likely to be kept out.

Previous attempts to hold elections have been abandoned because of violence, but the government believes the army and Border Security Force are gaining the upper hand. If there is no fresh upsurge in fighting, the poll could be held next spring.

The government is negotiating with the International



Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) about establishing a role in the valley — the first sign of a possible willingness by India to allow a degree of foreign involvement there. The ICRC wants permission to visit detainees, to deliver letters to them from their families and to provide medical facilities for victims of the conflict.

This raises awkward questions for India. There are about 50 informal detention centres, many in former schools and colleges, where suspected militants are inter-

rogated and frequently tortured. The government plainly has no intention of opening them to outside scrutiny.

Delhi has replied privately to the ICRC, which was recently allowed to send a delegation to the valley to assess local needs, offering to let it set up facilities in Kashmir through the Indian Red Cross, which would clearly give the authorities more control over who sees what. Indian human rights groups say there are between 20,000 and 25,000 Kashmiri detainees; the gov-

ernment says only 5,000 militants are in prison. The ICRC has not replied to the government's proposal.

The election commission will next week order the revision of electoral rolls in Kashmir. The government plans to establish voting arrangements for Kashmiris who have fled their homes, including 100,000 Hindus who left the valley in 1990. Many of them live in refugee camps in the largely Hindu Jammu region of the state and in Delhi.

K. Padmanabhaiah, the Home Secretary, the most senior government official responsible for Kashmir, said: "The lack of popular rule is partially responsible for the alienation [of the people], so we are keen that elections should be held. I think the existing terrorism in the valley can easily be put down. Technically we could hold elections in three to four months, but when exactly they are held depends on the ground conditions. We have taken a lot of actions and we expect conditions to improve."



A model displaying a gold watch encrusted with 769 diamonds, inspired by the late Duchess of Windsor, at an exhibition of rare timepieces in Sydney yesterday

## Colony to resume deporting refugees by force

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

HONG KONG will next week resume its programme of forced deportation of Vietnamese boat people, suspended after a widely criticised raid on a detention centre in April.

Ken Woodhouse, the Deputy Secretary for Security, said yesterday that 82 boat people would be transferred from detention centres to a prison on Monday to prepare them for deportation on Thursday. Independent observers and journalists would be allowed to witness the operation.

Mr Woodhouse said he hoped to see no repeat of the April violence, when inmates resisted a move to transfer them from the Whitehead detention centre to the High Island centre. Pam Baker, the spokeswoman for the Refugee Concern charity, which represents many boat people, said, however, that all 1,300 Vietnamese in one section of the High Island camp were on hunger strike in protest against any repatriation plan. She said 54 had threatened to commit suicide if the authorities entered the camp to remove them by force. About 24,000 boat people remain in Hong Kong.

Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, noted that the people of Hong Kong disliked the Vietnamese refugees and that it was a matter of honour to repatriate them from the colony, which reverts to Chinese rule in 1997.

Mr Hurd exuded good cheer yesterday as he left for Japan after a 26-hour visit to Hong Kong, despite China labelling Chris Patten, the Governor of the colony, a chief demands by British businessmen to avert a trade disaster with Peking, and criticism from local politicians who described their meeting with the Foreign Secretary as a waste of time.

Despite demands by the colony's Legislative Council for 3.5 million British passports for those who fear the Chinese takeover, Mr Hurd said "uncertainties no longer dominate the life of Hong Kong". That claim would surprise the chairman of the colony's leading pro-Peking party who has just revealed that his wife and daughter have moved to Canada.

Emily Lau, a member of the council, said she told Mr Hurd of "rising anxiety" and reminded him that he used to speak of avoiding a "shabby end" to colonialism. Martin Lee, the democratic leader, accused the British of "appeasement" and said no deals with China were better than bad ones. Mr Hurd insisted that such despair was wrong.



Hurd endorsed the repatriation plan

## Vietnam and US moving closer

FROM REUTERS IN HANOI

NGUYEN Manh Cam, Vietnam's Foreign Minister, said yesterday that he would meet Warren Christopher, the American Secretary of State, next month for talks.

Mr Cam, who is due to lead Vietnam's delegation at the United Nations General Assembly session in New York in early October, was speaking after talks here with Peter Tomsen, American Deputy Assistant Secretary of State. "Each time we meet each other, we understand each other more... this time both sides emphasised the effort to promote bilateral relations," he said.

Mr Cam and Mr Christopher have met only once before, at a conference of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean) in Singapore last year, when they held the first talks between American and Vietnamese Foreign Ministers since the end of the Vietnam War in 1975.

Mr Tomsen, on a three-day visit to Vietnam, said there had been progress on the issue of about 2,000 American servicemen missing in action since the war but gave no details. He also reviewed preparations for the opening of liaison offices in the two capitals, expected later this year as a first step to full diplomatic relations.

The two countries are in dispute over \$520 million (£37 million) in property, including American government and private buildings which were abandoned when Communist troops conquered Saigon in 1975. Le Mai, the Vietnamese Deputy Foreign Minister, said: "I think we share the same determination that we try to solve this matter so that we can open the liaison offices as soon as possible."

## Saudi militants target foreigners

BY HAZHIR TEIMOURIAN

A CLANDESTINE Saudi Arabian group is threatening to blow up Western interests in the kingdom and kidnap Westerners and members of the royal family in response to the arrest of Islamic critics of the government, according to Saudi moderates based in London.

The Committee for the Defence of Legitimate Rights (CDLR) said it had received the communiqué in Riyadh from a new group, the Battalions of Faith, which had given the authorities five days to release Sheikh Salman bin Fahd al-Awdah, who was arrested on Tuesday with about 30 of his followers.

The northern city of Buraydah was the focus of a large security operation yesterday and more Islamic critics of the government were arrested, according to private and diplomatic reports reaching London. About 30 armoured personnel carriers and a large

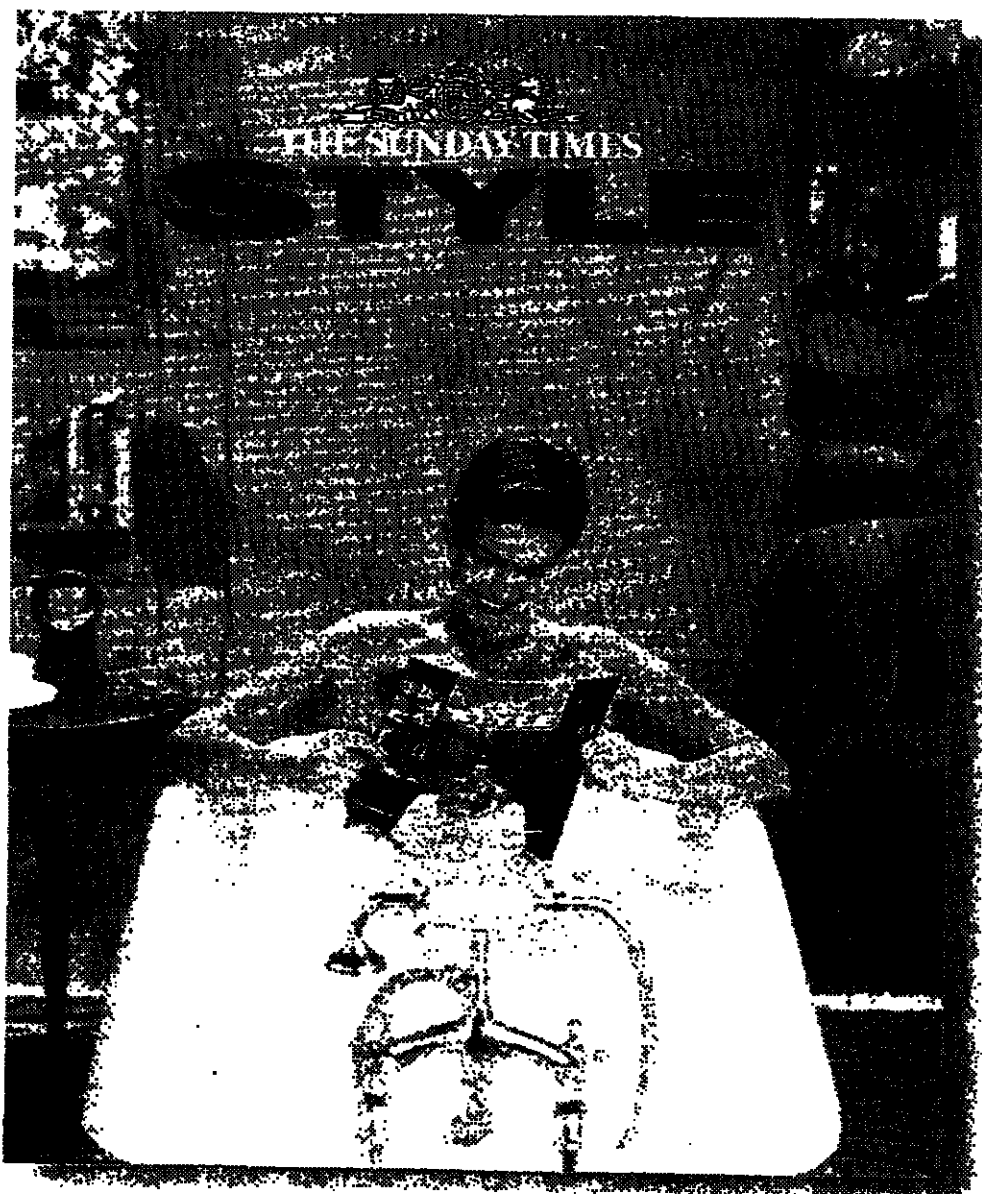
number of troops were said to be surrounding the city's main mosque and patrolling the streets.

According to CDLR, a London-based group of moderate Saudi Arabian clerics and professionals, the trouble started after Sheikh Salman was held for denouncing the arrest of two founding members of the CDLR two days earlier. About 30 of the sheikh's supporters were arrested with him.

On Wednesday evening the security forces tried to arrest more people gathered at the mosque, but about 400 young men protected the targets and moved to a smaller building, a spokesman said yesterday.

Muhammad al-Masari, a former physics lecturer and member of the CDLR, said his committee denounced the threats of violence and was "wholeheartedly committed to peaceful change" in Saudi Arabia.

# This Sunday, see how we've transformed the Style Section.



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# Plan agreed for lifting sanctions on Yugoslavia

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

SANCTIONS against the Serb-led rump of Yugoslavia will be relaxed for an initial 100 days under a plan intended to reward President Milosevic for blockading the Serbs in Bosnia.

The International Contact Group, made up of Britain, France, Germany, Russia and the United States, met in New York yesterday to add final touches to the texts of two resolutions to be put to the vote in the United Nations Security Council next week. The first resolution would suspend the ban on commercial flights to Belgrade and end the prohibition on sporting and cultural links, provided the Serbian leader keeps his promise to cut off the Bosnian Serbs.

The second resolution would tighten the sanctions against the Bosnian Serbs by banning all political contacts with their self-styled government and outlawing travel by their leaders. The two resolutions, expected to be easily approved by the Security Council, are the result of tortuous talks aimed at forcing the Bosnian Serbs to accept the 49 to 51 per cent division of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Initially, the Contact Group wanted to toughen the existing comprehensive trade embargo against Belgrade with draconian financial provisions that would undermine the country's economic stabilisation programme. Fearing a return

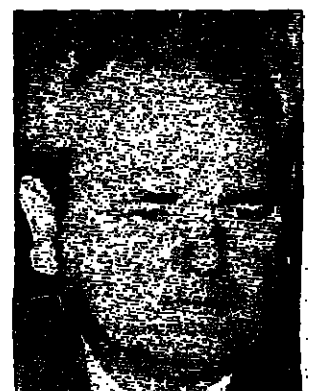
to hyperinflation, Mr Milosevic agreed to abandon his support for the Bosnian Serbs and to close the border for all but humanitarian supplies.

His decision prompted a change of strategy by the Contact Group as it tried, in the words of Alain Juppé, the French Foreign Minister, to "play the Milosevic card" in the search for peace. The aim is to widen the split between President Milosevic, representing a communist-parasitic tradition among Serbs, and Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader who continues the nationalist tradition.

Under the plan, the sanctions on the rump Yugoslavia will be eased as soon as international monitors report that the Yugoslav border with Bosnia has been effectively sealed. About 135 civilian monitors from European Union and Scandinavian countries, with 130 drivers and translators, will soon start observing cross-border traffic on behalf of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia, the umbrella group for international peace efforts.

Diplomats say they expect these monitors to be able to report that the border has been closed by the end of the month. The sanctions observers will report to the United Nations every month on the status of the border and the suspended sanctions will be reimposed automatically within five working days if the blockade is found to be ineffective.

The Contact Group's latest plan represents a significant victory for Mr Milosevic in his long-running struggle to convince the international community that his country should not be punished with sanctions for the war conducted by the Bosnian Serbs. The new strategy may soon be undermined, however, by Washington's undertaking to present another resolution to the Security Council on October 15 to lift the arms embargo against the Muslim-led Bosnian government.



Milosevic: reward for Bosnian Serb blockade

## Backstage death fails to undo Paris strip

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

THE striptease continued at Paris's Crazy Horse Saloon last night despite the apparent suicide of Alain Bernardin, the club's founder and director.

"The show must go on," said Louis Camiret, one of M. Bernardin's closest associates after the guru of dancing girls was found dead in his office. Police in Paris said M. Bernardin, 78, appeared to have shot himself at his club, just off the Champs-Élysées, on Thursday night. However, he left no suicide note and gave no signs of depression in the days before his death, friends said.

"This is a place of happiness. The president is no more. We must say nothing to the public," M. Camiret said. "I don't know how to explain this act."

A former painter, M. Bernardin explained his career change in the following way: "I found my way in life with a nude girl, Miss Fortuna. It was in undressing her one night after a gala that I understood the body of a woman would make my fortune." He was right.

Founded by M. Bernardin in 1951, the Crazy Horse has become one of the central attractions on the Paris tourist circuit, its elaborate shows seen by more than 200,000 people a year. With its innovative lighting and extravagant choreography, the nightclub has trod a fine line between pornography and dance.

Recruited from all over the world, the dancers were given exotic and bizarre nicknames by M. Bernardin. But the best-known dancer at the Crazy Horse was Lova Moor, alias Marie-Claude Jourdain, who married M. Bernardin in 1985. She went on to have a successful television career.

M. Bernardin claimed to be primarily concerned for his dancers' welfare, insisting on putting 25 per cent of their salaries into savings accounts.

## Socialist support fading

Stockholm: Two new opinion polls show that the likelihood of Sweden's opposition Social Democratic Party being returned to power in tomorrow's general election is fading (Nicholas George writes). But they indicate a centre-left coalition will emerge.

Last month, seven in ten voters said they thought Ingvar Carlsson, the party's leader, would be the next Prime Minister. The latest polls show the party has dropped to 43 per cent, which would leave it well short of the 175 seats needed for an outright parliamentary majority. Carl Bildt, the Conservative Prime Minister, taking advantage of the opposition's changing fortunes, warned of the "disastrous" effects of a "red-green government".

### Bribe trial

Athens: The Greek parliament voted to send Constantine Mitsotakis, 75, the former Conservative Prime Minister, for trial for taking a £14.4 million bribe in the sale of a state cement firm. (Reuters)

### French thrive

Paris: The life expectancy of French women is one of the highest in the world at 81.1 years while the figure for men is 72.9 despite too much wine and smoking, a Health Ministry survey showed. (Reuters)

### Tajik battle

Dushanbe: Fighting between Tajik rebels and government forces backed by Russia and other former Soviet states has intensified, but a Russian diplomat said reconciliation was possible. (Reuters)

### Gin for sin

Accra: To keep down unwanted births, a Ghana village chief has ruled that men impregnating girls under 18 will be fined £30, one sheep and three bottles of gin. The girls must pay £15. (Reuters)

## Economy drive threatens to wash away Venice defences

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

SILVIO Berlusconi's government came under pressure to act on safeguarding Venice yesterday after the chairman of a consortium set up to create anti-flooding defences said that the city was in "mortal danger".

Luigi Zanda, chairman of the Venezia Nuova consortium, appealed for 7,000 billion lire (£2.9 billion) to be spent between 1996 and 2003 on tidal barriers at each of the three openings of the lagoon. Signor Zanda said that complacency had set in over the dangers of a repeat of the 1966 floods that poured into shops, homes, churches and museums of La Serenissima. The Piazza San Marco has been flooded between 40 and 50 times each year in the 1990s, compared with only six or seven times annually in the 1950s, he said.

"Subsidence has lowered the city by 23cms [9in] this century so the high waters have become a mortal danger," Signor Zanda said. His consortium of 21 state-owned and private companies was set up seven years ago to



The Column of St Mark surrounded by water

develop a scheme to safeguard the city. But successive governments have shied away from approving funding for Venezia Nuova's plan to build 80 tidal barriers across the lagoon. Signor Zanda fears that the Berlusconi government is

likely to put anti-flood plans on hold again as it contemplates spending cuts for the 1995 austerity budget to bring down the huge government deficit.

Signor Zanda received qualified support from Ermesto Realacci, the chairman of Italy's League for the Environment, who said the debate on saving Venice had dragged on for nearly 30 years. However, Massimo Cacciari, the Mayor of Venice, said he doubted whether maintaining the flood barriers would be practical.

Four experts from Britain, Canada, America and Italy recently approved the tidal barrier scheme but said it ought to be adopted in conjunction with a plan to reduce the number of medium-high tides through techniques such as placing valves in the Venice rainwater drainage system.

Editor quits: Sergio Zavoli, the editor of *Il Mattino*, the leading Naples newspaper, resigned suddenly this week in a move that has added to rising concern over alleged pressure on newspaper proprietors to support government policies.



Piazza San Marco which has been flooded up to 50 times each year this decade

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## Philip Howard



John Major and Ian Paisley need an interpreter when they next meet

At their first Cabinet meeting since July, Sir Patrick Mayhew and his colleagues discussed the meaning of "permanent" with the pinpoint pedantry of medieval metaphysicians debating the difference between knowing and believing. In pedantic fact, nothing in this changing universe is permanent. *Tout passe, tout casse, tout lasse*, because of the second law of thermodynamics and less predictable causes. Even the brightest stars collapse into black holes; the Earth will not carry on revolving around the Sun permanently. And it is possible to invent arithmetical systems in which  $3^2 + 4^2 = 5^2$  is not a permanent truth; though such an unorthodox invention would upset Fermat's last theorem and *Aradia*, Tom Stoppard's brilliant play about the slipperiness of truth (as well as much else).

Of course, the Prime Minister and his Cabinet were conducting not linguistic but political analysis. They were debating the difference between knowing and believing in Ireland, not in the dictionary or the philosophical seminar. But the Irish and the English are divided by a shared language as well as by politics and history. As a slogan, "permanent" trumpets different rhetorical resonances in the two islands. Other linguistic differences are easier to pin down. If the broadcasting organisations had really wanted to make a monkey of the Government's counterproductive ban on broadcasts by spokesmen for Sinn Féin, they should have employed Indian or Caribbean understudies to deliver their soundbites. The Irish actors they actually use catch the roughish Paddy drawl of Gerry Adams, not the whining snarl of Gerry Anderson.

When Ian Paisley was booed unceremoniously out of Downing Street as what Dr Spenser would have described as a shining wit, he told the door-stepping hacks outside that the Prime Minister had said to him: "Except you now give me a categorical assurance that you will believe me, I will not talk with you." He then quoted John Major again: "Except you right now give me a categorical assurance that you believe my word on the constitutional position of Northern Ireland, I will not hold any conversation with you."

The voice was said to be Mr Major's voice, delivered by his unlikely understudy. But the grammar was the grammar of the Shankill. In the drab metropolitical lexis of Westminster, except as a conjunction meaning "unless" has long been obsolete. With one voice, the latest grammars and style guides condemn the use as a barbarism, uneducated, an Americanism, an archaism and wrong. One of the more permissive institutional pedagogues allows: "I would have been on time except I lost your address" on the grounds that this is a contraction for "except (for the fact that) I lost your address."

This was not always so. The *Authorized Version* resonates with the barbarism. "Except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain." "Except a man be born of water and of the spirit he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God." Later writers used the construction to sound solemn, as Tennyson did in *In Memoriam*: "In vain shalt thou call the spirits! Except thou too canst say! My spirit is at peace with all." But by 1880, that except as conjunction for "unless" was sounding as old-fashioned as the "shall" and "canst".

If Dr Paisley was quoting the Prime Minister verbatim, we have to assume that Mr Major has a previously unsuspected literary background in the stately prose of the 16th century. Or that he has a connection with dialects from wider shores than Sarf Lunnen, such as Lancashire, where it is idiomatic to use prepositions for conjunctions: "Without you own up, you'll get no pocket money." It is more likely that except was a piece of Ulster Protestant dialect, drummed in by the majestic rancour of the Old Testament in those black chapels. After listening to him preach, Dervla Murphy said: "Paisley might not convert an atheist to a belief in God, but he certainly had me converted to a belief in the devil." This is the land where a new Minister asked an Elder of his parish what the congregation was like. The Elder replied: "Well, so far as I have seen, there's only two Christians among the lot of them — the wife and myself. And begod sometimes I have my doubts about her."

Dialect and idiolect are as peculiar and engrained as beliefs and bigotry. The Anglo-Irish divide includes the language as well as history and politics.

Paddy Ashdown should prepare the third party to take a share in government, David Steel writes

## Liberal road to No 10



The truth is that Liberal Democrats can reach the parts Labour cannot reach and it would be sensible to recognise that

years. It is just technically possible that a first-time voter may have been born during a Conservative government, for heaven's sake. Parties which have been so long in unchallenged power become either slipshod, arrogant, incompetent or corrupt. We have seen traces of all these characteristics in recent months. The mood of the country will undoubtedly be for a change of government, but to what?

As Liberal Democrats gather in Brighton, they will be reading under a deluge of well-intentioned and well-prepared policy documents. Splendid. Indeed, in spite of the meers of some of the economic cognoscence, policies such as the hypotheconation of taxes may prove highly popular. For myself, as the outgoing foreign affairs spokesman, I am keen that we articulate positive policies on Europe, to pull us out of the shambles created by a divided Tory Party, and for a much more assertive policy on disarmament and the development of the United Nations. But as I regularly reminded the old Liberal Party, in tune with Jo Grimond's thoughts, policies themselves won't bring us advance.

We have to be clear about our relevance. What is the point of Liberal Democrats? Believing in a corpus of wonderful policies in a vacuum is pointless. We need to establish that we can win seats which Labour can't; that a Labour/Liberal Democrat government would actually be better than a Labour-only one.

On the last point, we cannot expect the Labour Party to agree, in spite of the well-meant cross-fertilisation of personnel on a couple of policy commissions. But on the first two, they would be wise to concur. The electorate may well consider it prudent to take out third-party insurance. After all, the trade unions are still mightily influential in Labour's constitution, and the wild men of the Left still lurk behind the Blair smile and could hold an uncomfortable degree of sway.

Today, Paddy Ashdown captains a much more effective machine than existed in the old Liberal/SDP days, but we have not yet recaptured the sense of excitement or relevance which we then enjoyed. At the Liberal Democrat conference in Brighton, we should stop worrying about frightening the horses (or the Tories) and start to portray our party positively as an essential part of that change which Britain so desperately longs for and needs. We must go back to our conference and prepare for government.

Sir David Steel MP was leader of the Liberal Party, 1976-1988, and is now President of Liberal International

## Take more care of the tourists

Britain's heritage needs to be cultivated to attract more visitors from home and abroad

Yesterday the Prime Minister took a break from deploring yob Britain to deplore philistine Britain. At a London conference he lauded the heritage. He put on its head a golden crown made of tourist buses and lottery tickets. After Crimebuster Major we now have Pre-Raphaelite Major, strolling down Piccadilly "with a poppy or a lily in his medieval hand." And joy of joys, none of the money was his.

I fear he will still encounter more yobbery. One of the most cack-handed of the current 1960s revivals is that of the New Brutalists. This takes the form of loving the Hayward Gallery, dismissing tourism as not "real" industry, and deriding those saving and displaying Britain's past as "theme park" crazies.

The Brutalists' hero, John Prescott, has long claimed that tourist jobs are for Mickey Mouse. Only manufacturing is for real men. Architects such as Sir Richard Rogers applaud Lord Palumbo for destroying old City of London buildings in the name of economic progress. Critics such as Robert Hewison and Dejan Sudjic demand that the past should be left to slide into oblivion. A *Guardian* distribute last week by Mr Sudjic equated saving old buildings and Canute. "The heritage state," he says with a sneer, "promises that nothing will intrude on our self-obsessed complacency."

This pudding is rich in controversy. Yesterday's conference was to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the conservation quango, English Heritage. To dismiss its work as the dammy hand of reaction is absurd. Barely 10 per cent of Britain's built-up land is under any sort of protection. A tiny 3 per cent of buildings are "listed" for protection. With the decline in farming, the countryside is now wide open to the caravan, golf course and bulldozer. Apart from parks, Green Belt and the National Trust, the British landscape is at the developer's mercy. The nation's surface area is not locked in some economic ice-age or covered in wall-to-wall Disney. It is appallingly vulnerable.

I believe that those who wish to infringe the right to private property must always say why. But infringe it they must. Last week a developer was forced to abandon a scheme to build a large private fundair on the Kempton beach in Brighton (see this page, two weeks ago). It not only offended the property interests of Brighton residents: it was an outrage to Britain's finest Regency seafont. Kempton is heritage, perhaps even "theme park Brighton". But to imply, as Mr Sudjic does, that saving it from desecration implies a lack of self-confidence and invites economic stagnation is nonsense.

I can hardly imagine the Brutalist revival truly wishes to go back to the 1960s, when largely uncontrolled development was permitted. Brutalism tore the vitals out of central Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool and Glasgow, creating such horrors as Birmingham's Bull Ring and Manchester's Piccadilly.

Today these cities not only regret the sheer ugliness of what they let the Brutalists build, but are acutely aware of the damage they did to their own commercial life. Bradford, now actively courting tourism, would love to restore Foster Square, whose 1960s replacement sits like a half-empty slug across the centre of its once magnificent Victorian. Newcastle wants to demolish some of its unlovable office blocks.

These cities are not stupid. They need visitors, new residents, tourists, night-life. They need their money. They can see that new money is now attracted to the rehabilitated areas of their old town centres. They cannot afford the passing

Simon Jenkins

fancies of London critics and *Guardian* columnists. The city of Leeds is proud of its restoration of Broderick's Town Hall, of its Victorian shopping arcades and rehabilitated canals. Conservation areas are now its growth points, for business as well as pleasure. Try telling the burghers of Leeds that they are victims of the "heritage state" and of a "self-obsessed complacency".

Modern architecture may claim to be innovative and exciting. It may even represent the cutting edge of one sort of entrepreneurship. It can no longer claim commercial primacy. The most expensive offices in London are in conserved Westminster, not the largely reconstructed City of London. Had the Canary Wharf skyscraper not been built in Docklands, I bet rents in the warehouses formerly on its site would today be higher than in the new block. I am told the highest retail turnovers in central London are now in Covent Garden and Camden Lock, both listed. To dismiss conservation as anti-commerce is plain ignorance.

The greatest tragedy that afflicted the conservation movement in the 1960s and 1970s was to be identified with herbivore aesthetics and a demand for government money. This divorced the movement from its central role in urban renewal — a mistake not made in France, Germany or America. Equally sad was the divorce

from what should have long been conservation's natural sponsor, tourism. Tourism is one of Britain's top three businesses, whether measured by exports, turnover or employment. Unsurprisingly, in the corridors of Whitehall, it is now facing an industrial disaster. Britain's tourist balance of payments has swung from a surplus of more than £1 billion in 1977 to a deficit of £3 billion last year. Britain's share of international tourism fell between 1980 and last year from 6.7 per cent to 4.3 per cent. Irish and French tourism receipts are currently growing at twice Britain's rate. This has nothing to do with wealth or the weather (though something to do with exchange rates). Mostly, it is that Britain is losing its appeal for foreigners and Britons.

The tourist industry is at a loss what to do. This is well demonstrated by the internecine war recently fought between the English Tourist Board and the Confederation of British Industry as to who speaks for tourism, both to itself and to government. It was won by the CBI, whose Director-General, Howard Davies, was duly invited to yesterday's conference. He reiterated the old complaint that tourism is a Cinderella industry, neglected and undervalued. We know that. He did not say how the business was to tackle its most intractable job: to persuade foreigners to return to Britain after their first visit, and persuade Britons to holiday at home.

The CBI and the ETB may be in favour of more investment in hotels, roads, cafes and rest stops. Unfortunately, these are not what tourists say they come to Britain to see. Every survey answers this question the same: they come to see historic buildings, towns and the countryside. Neglect these attractions, stop investing in them and visitors will stop coming. It is simple as that. Somehow the magnet has been turned off, as it has not in France or Spain. Hard economics demands more conservation — even more theme parks — not fewer.

In other words democratic politics, hard-nosed economics and aesthetics ought all to be pulling in the same direction. Public enthusiasm to piece together the historic districts of cities is growing stronger, not weaker. Old buildings and landscape yield a more vibrant popular participation than do any conventional party politics, guaranteed to pack any village hall. If such politics is rooted in Not-in-my-backyard, so be it. Self-interest is the starting point of democracy.

Yet the case still has to be made. Launch a campaign to stimulate British manufacturing, British agriculture, British science, even British theatre and you will get enthusiastic backing from all sides. Government departments will fall over themselves to declare an interest. Ministers will leap into action. A campaign to honour Britain's cultural continuity, to protect it and promote it at home and abroad is dismissed as stagnant and retrograde. That is job culture for you.



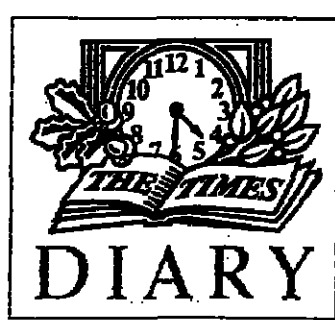
Buckingham Palace, now open to all: the lure of such buildings makes tourism one of Britain's top three businesses, despite a lack of investment

## Secondhand rose

THE SOCIETY cocktail circuit has been coughing on its canapés this week over floral arrangements for today's wedding of Lord Palumbo's younger daughter, Laura, to Neel Tikoo. The flowers are secondhand.

There can be no question of the Palumbo family feeling the pinch, despite the impending High Court battle between Lord Palumbo and his son James and elder daughter Annabella over the family fortune. But the wedding in St Margaret's, Westminster, follows hard on the heels of the crossbench Lord St John of Bletso's marriage service yesterday to the former Miss England, Helen Westlake. And Westminster Abbey says the same flowers are being used. "The two couples are sharing the same flowers," says the abbey's Emma St John Smith. "It makes great practical sense, I suppose."

Whether guests, who include the Princess of Wales and the Duchess of York, will spot the odd willing



lily is hard to tell. But Mary Killen, The Spectator's expert in social decorum, questions the decision. "They will certainly regret it when they have to say where the flowers came from. But I'm very mean and I'd probably do the same." But one nited guest says: "The flowers will be fantastic. It doesn't matter who's had them first."

GUESTS at the Chelsea home of Paul Channon, former Transport Secretary, may notice a couple of

bare spots on his lavishly decorated walls. He has lent two sizeable paintings by Francesco Guardi to the Royal Academy's exhibition of "The Glory of Venice".

## Venetian sup

VISCOUNT Norwich celebrated the Venice exhibition with an 18th century Venetian spread at the Salsio restaurant in Knightsbridge. All was fine until the puds arrived. A Venetian lemon sorbet mixed with grappa and drunk from a champagne flute proved the trickiest. Nothing emerged initially, then as the glass was tipped back the lot shot out like a champagne cork. "Very messy," agreed Lord Norwich's daughter Artemis Cooper, as another diner cried out that her false teeth had stuck to a caramelised dish that followed. "We call it the Venetian backlash."

## Artless chef

COVENT Garden is a poorer place for the death of 101-year-old Giuseppe Bertorelli, patriarch of

the Bertorelli restaurant family, credited with bringing Italian cuisine to the masses.

Friends point out, however, that Bertorelli could have died a richer man — but for his obsession with cleanliness. In the 1920s, the painter Augustus John, a ravioli man, was a regular at Bertorelli's and used to draw all over the tablecloths, a habit that infuriated Giuseppe. "He always insisted that Augustus John used washable ma-



terials so that the tablecloths could be properly cleaned," says his friend. "And he couldn't believe it when he became famous."

## Clark footnote

THE Tory party should be alert. Alan Clark, the former defence minister and diarist, is at work on his next book: a history of the Conservative Party since 1922. The theme is the consistent neglect of the national interest, he says. "It's a proper book with footnotes." But Conservatives won't have to wait until publication day for his next pronouncements on their activities. Clark has been signed up by the BBC to talk us through the Conservative Party conference.

## Dogged fan

THOSE ESSENTIAL props of any American diplomatic family, their dogs, are causing difficulties. The former US Ambassador to the Court of St James, Ray Seitz, deployed his three hounds to great ef-

fect at hospitality functions, where they won over many a guest for him. Seitz's successor, Admiral William Crowe, and, more particularly, his wife Shirley, clearly wish they could follow suit.

Trouble is that the Crowes' golden Labrador is still caged in quarantine kennels at Heathrow. And Mrs Crowe, once an air stewardess with American Airlines, misses the dog so much that she spends a considerable proportion of her week visiting the animal. "Obviously it is

very hard all-round," says an aide. "But Mrs Crowe goes whenever possible."

## Model act

FEVERISH excitement in London's theatreland. Isabella Rossellini, the top model whose elegant looks have reduced hardened fashion photographers to jelly, is to abandon cosmetics temporarily for a period on the West End stage.

I understand that she is visiting London on Tuesday to read through a Terence Rattigan play with a view to performing at the Criterion Theatre in Piccadilly Circus at Christmas. "Talks are at an early stage, but if the read-through goes well, she will perform for the first time in the West End," says a source.

Her friend, Tom Conti, will be at the reading and is expected to star alongside her in the one-act play *Before Dawn*, a little-known work which tackles a subject far removed from the catwalk: incurable illness.



Treading the boards at the Criterion: Isabella Rossellini

P.H.S





## MEMORY OF DEFEAT

Fifty years on: the noble lessons of Arnhem

After half a century it may seem strange that the British should celebrate one of the last German military victories of the second world war, the Battle for Arnhem, more popularly celebrated in book and film as *A Bridge Too Far*. Yet tomorrow British veterans, along with former soldiers and Resistance fighters from other Allied nations, will begin a series of commemorations of the battle which will be extensively reported on this side of the Channel, not least in *The Times*. Doubtless it will be said that the British are obsessed with the past, by war and by dreams of faded glory. Some already complain that Arnhem 1994 is further evidence that the British refigure their former wars because they are unable to cope with democratic Germany today.

These views are mistaken. It is a sign of moral strength not weakness that defeat in a noble cause can be commemorated. Brave men who died defending King and Country against cruel tyranny are always worthy of our respect. The British have not suffered an invasion since the Jacobite rebellions: we have enough confidence to mark disasters as well as triumphs. Hence the dispatch of an eminent parliamentary delegation led by Lord Hailsham to America more than a decade ago to commemorate the loss of the first British empire at the battle of Yorktown.

There is also the paradox, not quite appreciated by those of a pacific inclination, that the British soldier in 1944, as much as the historian of war today, respected the fighting qualities of the German soldier and his incomparable non-commissioned officer, while simultaneously despising the Nazi regime and the high command which ordered them into battle. *The Times* today has a special contribution in this regard: our Diplomatic Editor, Michael Binyon, tells of his encounter with the German commander in the battle where his father, Captain Roger Binyon, died without ever seeing his son.

Arnhem holds much strategic fascination. Military historians and veterans continue to debate the feasibility of the enterprise. Was the battle plan of the Allied Airborne Force to drop across three great rivers in Holland flawed in conception or in the execution? Or both? Was the strategy behind Arnhem a perfect illustration of Montgomery's arrogance and Eisenhower's superior Broad Front strategy? To his defenders Montgomery's Narrow Front gambit was an imaginative attempt to shorten the war in the teeth of opposition from an American supreme commander whose skills resided in politics not generalship.

With luck, that quality so prized by Napoleon in his generals, Allied forces might have crossed the Rhine at Arnhem and burst over the north German plains in September 1944, sparing the losses of the Battle of the Bulge and other engagements. General Sir John Hackett, the only senior surviving British officer from the battle and himself no mean strategist, further contends that failure to capture the bridgehead and make a rapid breakout meant surrendering Berlin to the Red Army the following year.

Arnhem's significance has another dimension. The desire to save Allied soldier's lives by ending the war quickly came naturally to generals — Montgomery in particular — who had lived through the slaughter of the First World War as well as the Second. The Allied civilian leadership was democratic not totalitarian. The politicians, too, had little appetite for throwing away more lives if a short cut could be taken. The same thinking applied in the Pacific theatre where the Americans blanched at the prospect of landings on the Japanese mainland. A similar logic applies today. Britain, the United States (sometimes to a degree thought excessive by its critics) and their democratic friends weigh heavy the cost in blood before committing troops to battle.

## ON LINE

Today we enter a new phase in our newspaper history

Over the past decade, a new medium of communication has been slowly emerging. Through computer terminals and telephone lines, a network of electronic mail and information has spread around the world. At first, only enthusiasts crouched over their keyboards took much notice, but today anybody with a computer and a small piece of equipment to link it to the telephone system can join in. From today, a new initiative, *Times On-Line*, aims to make access even simpler — and may be one day be seen as a newspaper development to set beside the rotary press and the type-setter.

For centuries, as each generation of technological change has followed the other, it has been feared that the new would devour the old. In the past 50 years the pace of change has accelerated — from the telephone, through cinema, radio, television, fax, and now electronic mail and information systems. And the fears have grown too. Television, it was confidently asserted, would destroy books and the cinema: in fact, each has lived successfully alongside the others. The qualities needed to create a great newspaper will prove equally valuable, we believe, in the management and distribution of electronic information.

A newspaper is more than a megaphone to repeat and amplify the information it receives. One of its most important functions is that of a filter, separating from a torrent of shapeless facts those that are important enough to justify its readers' attention. Never was this function more necessary than in the world of electronic information, where the capacity to shift data to and fro is so dauntingly large. The danger is not that of too little information, but too much. In the cacophony, the message can easily be lost in the surrounding noise.

For readers, a great advantage of the new

service will be the ability to communicate both with the newspaper's journalists and with each other. At first, there will be four "forums", covering travel, education, information technology, and the media, each moderated by the editors of the corresponding sections in *The Times*. Readers with questions to ask will be able to direct them to the appropriate forum, where they may find answers from the editor or from other readers. In this way, users will be able to draw on the knowledge of *The Times*, and also the far greater knowledge that is distributed among those who buy *The Times* — something that has only been possible to a very limited extent before. In future, the hope is to widen the range of forums to include other parts of the newspaper.

In addition, joining the system will give readers access to a daily summary of *Times* headlines, and to the Internet itself, a worldwide computer network that provides both huge amounts of information and an electronic mail service to anybody else who belongs. Joining the system through *Times On-Line* is designed to be as easy as possible; it is not a system that demands great skill or a detailed knowledge of computers. It is meant to be simple, and it is.

The Information Superhighway, as the Internet has been dubbed, invites hyperbole because it seems to have no limitations beyond those of the human imagination. Some enthusiasts believe that ultimately electronic information systems will replace newspapers altogether. Even if they do, they will not replace journalism, but provide a new forum within which it can be practised. *The Times* has always prided itself on its willingness to adopt the latest technology to serve its readers better: with *Times On-Line*, we are moving into another new and exciting age in which we can fulfil our duty.

## BOBBIES ON THE BEACH

Policing the Cayman Islands will be no tropical picnic

Those Cayman Islands are in the news again. Not content with the multimillion lightbulb that shines from their association with *Canova's Three Graces* — whose ownership rests in a secretive company registered in the Islands — this British Dependent Territory is now linked with Havana's bogeyman, Fidel Castro. Paddling from Cuba, and perhaps unhappily mistaking George Town for Miami, hundreds of refugees have descended on these dots on the map, giving the Governor a fierce headache than any produced by hours in a plumed pith helmet.

The Islands' name, derived as it is from the Spanish *caimán* — or alligator — suggests a place of snap-jawed, sabre-toothed peril. Yet far from being perilous (even its mosquitoes have been wiped out), it is a jolly haven in the Caribbean, whose agouti, iguanas, lizards, green sea turtles, frogs and cheng-chengs frolic and jaunt, bothered by nothing more daunting than lawyers, bankers and chartered accountants. For the Caymans are a haven for them, too, and for all others whose belief in the Gospel of the Untaxed Pound is total.

It is to this Eden of flora, fauna and the fax machine that the despairing Cuban raft-people have arrived. And promised to come in their wake are policemen from Britain: more than 200 of them. For as the Foreign Office puts it ponderously, the British

Government has a "constitutional obligation to ensure the security of the Islands". The Cayman Islands, with their ceremonial police force, are thought to be incapable of dealing with this unprecedented influx. What better reinforcement, then, than the British bobby, whose very presence will reassure the lawyers, bankers and chartered accountants (as well as the beleaguered Governor of the Islands) that there is nothing to worry about. Christopher Columbus, a previous visitor from Europe, brought a similarly soothing message in 1503.

The Yard's men are often in demand. Recently, they have ventured to such places as South Africa, and to the West Bank and Gaza, to train new or restructured police forces. British coppers played a part in rebuilding shattered Cambodia. And the security forces of the former Soviet empire, eager to function without infringing the constitutional rights of individuals, have often asked for advice from our men in blue. Or will it now be khaki? The sartorial arrangements for those on secondment to the Caymans are not yet clear: standard British issue will not do. What is certain, however, is that their task is not a frivolous one. Refugees make complex demands on those who play host to them. Food and shelter must be given, of course. Yet so must understanding, and it is on this factor that the success of the mission to the Caymans will depend.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

### Marriage, the best institution for raising children?

From the President of the British Psychological Society

Sir, One of scientists' most common criticisms of Government is that policy is formulated on ideological grounds rather than looking at and accepting the scientific evidence. Alistair Burt, the social security minister, has done it again ("Living in sin" threat to British children", September 14).

He states categorically that there is a huge toll of human suffering (for children), that the non-nuclear family is a less secure place to raise a child, and that a child raised within a marital family is more stable and more likely to endure.

Today I asked several leading psychological researchers in the fields of the family and child development whether there is any hard scientific evidence to support the junior minister's claim.

Most replied that there is no hard evidence. They cited studies which showed that even where there appeared to be a relationship between single-parent families and children's problems, this disappeared when the effects of poverty were allowed for. There is also strong evidence that what is damaging to children is change in their circumstances, rather than what those circumstances are.

One review of the literature does show that, allowing for the effects of poverty, children with fathers fare better than children without fathers, and that a warm, close relationship with fathers in the early years is important, particularly for adult men. But the general picture from research is one of complexity, where family relationships are just one factor in the well-being or otherwise of children.

It would be nice if Mr Burt could blame all children's problems on people whose families are "morally suspect" but unfortunately life is more complicated than that.

Yours faithfully,  
GEOFF LINDSAY, President,  
The British Psychological Society,  
St Andrew House,  
48 Princess Road East, Leicester.  
September 14.

From Dr John Campion

Sir, Mr Alistair Burt's declarations on the desirability of marriage are welcome. However I should like to draw

attention to matters which, I believe, seriously undermine his position.

Marriage no longer exists in law except as an empty title which may be assumed or discarded at will. The law, with the single exception mentioned below, no longer orders the lives of parties in a manner which pays any respect to marriage as a distinct legal state: it orders their lives according to biological models of childcare and quasi-Marxist models of economic need. The Child Support Agency, in ordering payments according to biological parenthood to the exclusion of all other matters, reinforces this pattern established by divorce law.

The sole formal "advantage" that legal marriage confers on a man is the power of the courts to confiscate his capital vested in his home and give it to his wife when she decides she wishes to end the so-called marriage. In fact it appears that even this "advantage" has disappeared since a recent Edinburgh Court of Session judgment deemed that a couple who were cohabiting were in fact legally married in virtue of their behaviour and reputation (report, August 19).

At present marriage is an unacceptably dangerous state for men, as is shown by the armies of divorced men now voting with their feet. Increasingly this message extends to the never-married. We need to create a state of legal marriage which reflects both the values commonly understood by the phrase and the commitment made by parties at the time, and which attracts both men and women to enter into the married state.

Yours faithfully,  
T. J. CAMPION (Chairman,  
Family Law Action Group),  
Cross Winds, Carron Lane,  
Midhurst, West Sussex.  
September 16.

From Mrs Patricia Perry

Sir, Alistair Burt has my full support when he states that the welfare of Britain's children is threatened by the growth of cohabitation.

I once heard a child of four ask another from a one-parent family where her father was: the all-too-swift response was a straight lie. No mother can deal satisfactorily with the problems that arise, and multiply, from such incidents unless she can tell the child that the father is dead.

### Archbishop in China

From Dr Andrew Purkis

Sir, The headline on your report today, "Archbishop attacks British capitalism", about Dr Carey's speech in Shanghai, is a travesty. Dr Carey did not attack British capitalism. He did not contrast it with China's communist state.

The speech was based on a previous address which drew high praise from Christian businessmen in this country for its affirmation of responsible wealth-creation and its contribution to overcoming sterile and polarised debate about it.

Dr Carey offered his Chinese audience some theological reflections, illustrated from British experience, as they come to terms with the extraordinarily rapid industrialisation of their country. The Archbishop's main thrust was this:

I have deliberately emphasised that wealth creation is part of God's plan. But that is not to say that God's plan is limited to wealth creation. It must serve something bigger and not become a god in itself.

Yours faithfully,

ANDREW PURKIS  
(The Archbishop of Canterbury's  
Secretary for Public Affairs),  
Lambeth Palace, SE1.  
September 16.

### Rights in Turkey

From Mr R. C. H. Briggs

Sir, Mme Leyla Zana's letter, smuggled from her Ankara prison and printed in your September 7 issue, echoes the publication of Gladstone's famous demand in September 1876 for the evacuation of Bulgaria by the Turks "bag and baggage" (in his pamphlet, *The Bulgarian Horrors and the Question of the East*).

Atrocities committed by Turkish irregular troops against Christian communities provoked a storm of protest throughout the United Kingdom. William Morris, entering upon his political career, associated himself with Gladstone and described the Turks as "thieves and murderers" (*The Daily News*, October 26, 1876).

Last week a conference held in Budapest of sections of the International Commission of Jurists requested the commission's executive committee to verify the circumstances of Mme Zana's letter and, if found to be substantially correct, to express the commission's horror and indignation that a state that has ratified the European Convention on Human Rights should treat elected representatives in this way.

In 1876 Lord Derby, the Foreign Secretary, was impelled to inform the Turkish government that the outrages in Bulgaria had "aroused an universal feeling of indignation in all classes of English society". This is an excellent precedent of straight talk that his successor, Mr Douglas Hurd, should now follow.

Yours faithfully,  
R. C. H. BRIGGS,  
Campion, Stockbridge Lane,  
Coombe Bisset, Salisbury, Wiltshire.  
September 14.

### Safety at Malibu

From Mrs Robina Lund Langley

Sir, Amidst the current swings in fortune regarding the final destination of *The Three Graces*, there are other pertinent questions which should be addressed regarding the sale and export of works of art, such as the responsibility of museums, art galleries and other public (and private) institutions for the care and safety of their exhibits, many of which are international treasures.

The Getty Museum is situated very near to the San Andreas fault in California, with potentially catastrophic consequences. In the early 1960s, when the idea of building the museum was first discussed, I raised this point as a legal, moral and practical issue with the late J. Paul Getty — to whom I was (English) legal adviser for 17 years. In those days, the probability of a devastating earthquake was not fully appreciated and Mr Getty tended to treat it as no more than a remote possibility.

He had frequently said that he hoped to be remembered "maybe as a footnote in history" as a collector of works of art rather than, as he ruefully expected would happen, a money-oriented oilman. So, when I pressed him on what he would feel if any calamity such as an earthquake or forest fire occurred, he admitted he would be horrified, not only at the loss of irreplaceable treasures but also at

the prospect of being remembered as the instrument of their destruction.

Suppose, I asked, that at some time in the future, some major disaster threatened the museum, what would he expect the trustees to do? He replied that he hoped they would have enough sense to rebuild the museum in a suitable and safer location, even if it meant moving it stone by stone.

In case *The Three Graces* should finally be destined for Malibu, perhaps the time is now appropriate to ask exactly what precautions the trustees have taken to protect not only one of our greatest national treasures but also the many other priceless acquisitions made over many years by Mr Getty and the museum? It is, after all, the one museum in the world that cannot plead poverty. What would be the trustees' reaction to the idea of using some of the ample surplus funds to move to a less vulnerable environment?

It is also time to consider forming some sort of international commission, whose remit would be to assess the fitness and suitability of museums and art galleries and other collections to acquire and exhibit works of art, say, above a certain value? What we do today conserves or destroys for tomorrow.

Yours truly,  
ROBINA LUND LANGLEY,  
Troup House,  
Gamrie, Banffshire.  
September 14.

From Mr Christopher Nelms

Sir, If Alistair Burt believes the stability of marriage is fundamental to the welfare of children, why does the Government continue to support a system in which divorce is so readily available as to make it (a superficially) attractive option to those wavering in their commitment to making their marriages work?

Yours sincerely,  
C. A. NELMS,  
5 Romney Drive, Bromley, Kent.

### Simple signal for mountain rescue

From Mr Justin Grant

Sir, I work in the Scottish mountains, radio-tracking the golden eagle as part of a research project for the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. The birds I monitor each carry a miniature radio transmitter (matchbox size) which emits signals on an individually identifiable frequency. My success in locating a bird depends on various factors, but I am rarely thwarted.

Like many others I have been horrified by the number of avoidable deaths in our mountains in recent years, due to a combination of factors which include poor map-reading, inadequate safety equipment and the inability to gauge personal levels of fitness and competence.

I am convinced that the portable, inexpensive and easily available radio-technology we use for eagles could and should be applied to assist rescue teams in their search for lost, exhausted and injured parties in the mountains.

It would shorten the time taken to locate climbers, thus increasing the likelihood of their survival while simultaneously reducing the risk to the searchers. I myself carry such a small radio-transmitter while in the mountains, as do all those involved in this work.

Such radio-tags could be made available for hire from police stations, public houses, youth hostels and mountain rescue units, to be "signed out" with a fully returnable deposit. They could then be used by high-risk groups (very young or very old or inexperienced people) and in high-risk areas and/or conditions. The technology is simple to use and maintain, and is ready and waiting.

Yours faithfully,  
JUSTIN GRANT,  
7 Maitland, Inverary, Argyll.  
September 13.

### Blair's solutions

From Mr Paul Richards

Sir, Peter Riddell talks of a "culture of opposition" amongst Labour politicians ("Riddell on politics", September 14). The election of Tony Blair as Labour leader must surely herald an end to such a culture. In the short weeks since his election Mr Blair has offered a constructive approach to the signal workers' strike, the situation in Northern Ireland, the recent interest rate rise, education policy, and the party/trade union links.

He has sliced a series of Gordian knots which have perplexed Labour leaders for two decades.

The tone of his public pronouncements has been measured, rational and underscored by a rigorous ethical *Weltenkennung*.

A foreign observer of British politics might look at the recent performance of the Government in comparison with Her Majesty's loyal Opposition, and have some difficulty deciding which has been in government for 15 years, and which has not.

I remain, Sir, etc.  
PAUL RICHARDS,  
109 Hammersmith Bridge Road, W6.  
September 14.

### Words on tombstones

From Mr J. F. Rutter

Sir, Further to your recent correspondence on tombstones, when the late Mrs D. C. Guest of Nailsworth, Gloucestershire, lost her husband during 1968 she had the words "Also of Eddy" his poodle" added to the inscription on the tombstone at Wincanton cemetery, Somerset.

Mrs Guest intended Eddy to be placed in the same grave when he died. The authorities allowed the wording to remain but made it clear that the proposed burial of the dog would not be permitted as "a line had to be drawn somewhere in case someone might wish to bury a pet elephant". Fortunately there was a compromise and the dog's ashes were in due course scattered above his master. The words remain.

Yours truly,  
J. F. RUTTER,  
Eden Grove, Zeals,  
Warminster, Wiltshire.

From Mr Raoul Millais

Sir, In a few days I shall be 93. I hope to have engraved on my memorial plinth: "I did not expect to be here so soon." Will the local bishop come with his hammer and chisel and erase the inscription?

Yours sincerely,  
RAOUL MILLAIS,  
Westcote Manor, Church Westcote,  
Widmore, Northampton, Oxfordshire.  
September 13.

### Into the unknown

From Mr Andrew Jackson

Sir, I would feel more reassured by Professor Hawking's assertion that Comet Machholz-2 will "almost certainly" miss the Earth if your report (September 15) had indicated whether the comet was now either so near that he could not be wrong; or so far away that I wouldn't care even if he was.

Yours faithfully,  
ANDREW JACKSON,  
266 Hertingfordbury Road,  
Hertingfordbury, Hertfordshire.  
September 15.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 071-782 5046.







OBITUARIES

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL SIR MICHAEL LLEWELLYN

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Michael Llewellyn Bt, JP, Lord Lieutenant of West Glamorgan, died on September 8 aged 73. He was born on June 15, 1921.

IT WAS Michael Llewellyn who, as a young subaltern in the Grenadier Guards, escorted the present Queen and Princess Margaret when they slipped out of Buckingham Palace on VJ night and mingled unrecognised among the crowd.

In a repeat performance of a similar episode on VE night, they sent word in to the Palace demanding that King George VI and the present Queen Mother return to the balcony for one more public appearance. "We want to see what you look like from the other side," was the message — one which Llewellyn recalled with the Queen on meeting her again in Wales many years later.

He was already well known to the princesses as a member of the Windsor Castle Defence Force. Wounded in the ankle in 1944 while fighting to the north of Rome, he had returned to his battalion shortly before the fall of Berlin, only to be reposted to Windsor Castle soon afterwards.

Aged 24 and still suffering from some stiffness in his foot, he was to be the last recruit for the small elite force of mainly guardsmen who formed the royal family's last bastion of defence against the Nazis.

He dined regularly with the princesses at the castle, the King and Queen joining them at weekends.

Llewellyn's duties included having to carve the Sunday joint for His Majesty, a daunting prospect for one

who had always previously deferred to his own father. His first attempt earned him a stern rebuke from the King with the words: "Mr Llewellyn, you're slicing the ham too thickly."

After several months, however, the war ended and the defence force was disbanded. He attended a reunion of all its members at which the Queen was present a few years ago.

Michael Rowland Godfrey Llewellyn was born at Neath, the son of Sir Godfrey Llewellyn, a prosperous South Wales businessman who later became chairman of the Conservative Party. The baronetcy was created for Sir Godfrey in 1959 after he chaired the organising committee of the successful Empire Games in Cardiff in the previous year. Those were the games at which the Queen announced, amid great acclaim, that her son Charles was to become the Prince of Wales.

After leaving Harrow, young Michael served briefly in the Home Guard before being commissioned into the Grenadiers in 1941. He continued in the Guards after the war, serving as an instructor at the School of Infantry, Warminster.

By 1949, however, he was bored and frustrated by the routine of peacetime soldiering. Resigning his commission, he returned to join his father in a series of companies run by Sir Godfrey in South Wales — principally the large Swansea motor dealers, C. K. Andrews — where he was to become managing director.

Michael Llewellyn not only sold cars, but also drove them. Beginning with an MG — one of the firm's models — he turned both to rally driving and the race track, competing



at Brooklands, Silverstone and Aintree, and some circuits abroad against the top drivers of the time. A cherished photograph at his home on the Gower peninsula shows Llewellyn in a race on the Isle of

Man, apparently ahead of Stirling Moss. He gave up serious driving in the late 1950s, however, after marrying for the second time and settling down happily with his new wife, at their home overlooking Three Cliffs

Bay, one of the beauty spots on the Gower coast. At the same time, he began to enter public life.

Already commanding, since 1951, the 1st Battalion Glamorgan Army Cadet Force (ACF), he went on to become local president of the Soldiers' Sailors' and Air Force Association, and the British Legion, and president of the ACF Association for all Wales. He was also a general commissioner of Income Tax and was active in the St John and Boy Scout movements.

He followed his father in working for the Conservative Party, serving at various times as president of the Gower Conservative Association and of the West and Mid Wales Conservative European Association.

A well-liked, good-humoured, but unostentatious man, he began to attract wider public attention when he was appointed High Sheriff for West Glamorgan, 1980-81. A year later, he became a deputy lieutenant and in 1985 vice-lieutenant. He was appointed Lord Lieutenant in 1987, one year after succeeding his father to the baronetcy.

Despite suffering from cancer, he carried on with his duties to the end. His last appointment was in Cardiff five days before he died when he joined Lord Tonypandy, the former Speaker, in taking the salute at a march past of the Royal Regiment of Wales. Lord Tonypandy was there to perform the function on his own, but insisted that Llewellyn should join him on the saluting base.

Michael Llewellyn is survived by his wife Janet and their three daughters. He had no heir and the baronetcy thus dies with him.

OSSIA TRILLING

Ossia Trilling, theatre critic, died on September 13 aged 80. He was born on September 22, 1913.



OSSIA TRILLING was a legendary figure in the world of international theatre. As writer, critic, translator and correspondent he was adept at persuading unwary arts editors that a minor festival in the far reaches of northern Germany was of utmost importance and an account should appear in their paper.

How Trilling managed in later years to keep up this roundabout of conferences, interviews and articles is explained by his obsession with all things theatrical. He changed little physically with the years. His energy never flagged and his voice continued to intimidate PR girls who had failed to provide free programmes or enough press seats. He was a character who went his own way, regardless of those who gathered round to hear the latest "Ossia story" with delight.

He was born in Bialystok in Poland. His father, a successful wool merchant, moved with his wife and young family to Moscow until the Russian Revolution found them more securely based in Finland. Because of his contacts in Bradford, Trilling's father came to England where Trilling grew up in a large Hampstead family house with his brother and four sisters.

From St Paul's he gained a scholarship to St John's, Oxford, where he claimed that his rooms had previously been occupied by Sir Anthony Eden. By this time he was speaking fluent Russian, German, French and Hebrew as well as English, and when Max Reinhardt came to OUDS with his production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in 1933 Trilling was his German translator. From that time he was hooked on the theatre. He co-directed Strindberg's *The Road to Damascus* and *Queen Cristina* (both British premieres) at the Westminster Theatre for the Incorporated Stage Society in 1937 and met Bernard Shaw.

In 1940 he was commissioned second lieutenant and became acting captain. Once

again his knowledge of languages stood him in good stead. Montgomery sent him on missions to the Russians, who were impressed by his immaculate pre-revolutionary accent.

On being demobbed he turned to theatre writing. He co-edited *Theatre Newsletter* from 1945-51 and *Theatre News* in 1945. He was, however, earning no money and his father suggested that he join the family wool firm, visit foreign clients and go to the theatre in the evening. The plan worked perfectly and Trilling built up his contacts abroad, sent back notices to the popular *Theatre World* magazine, contributed to *The Stage*, *The Times* and many other publications as well as speaking regularly on the BBC World Service on London theatre affairs.

He lost a struggle for the presidency of the International Association of Theatre Critics in 1977 but was a long-term member of the Critics Circle, and other theatre organisations. Joan Littlewood remembers him warmly for offering her a share of his minute office space in Soho when her Theatre Workshop was homeless.

In 1980 he was awarded by Sweden the Royal Order of the North Star and in 1983 he became Knight First Class of the Order of the Finnish Lion. In 1951 he married Marie-Louise Crichton-Fock, a Finnish actress who supported and sustained him devotedly throughout his career. She survives him; there were no children.

AIR-VICE MARSHAL DAVID DAVISON



Air-Vice Marshal David Davison, general surgeon, died from cancer on August 11 aged 62. He was born in Sutton, Surrey, on April 28, 1932.

DAVID DAVISON, known to his colleagues as "DD", was one of that old school of general surgeons who could turn his hand to almost any challenge. He spent his life with the Royal Air Force, where he came to be looked on in these days of extreme specialisation as one of a vanishing breed. During his final year, he also came to occupy the most senior medi-

cal post in the RAF, that of its Clinical Director overseeing all the other specialist branches within the service. Never a politician, he got as far as he did by sheer ability — and a dry sense of humour, a classic bedside manner and an ability to get on with all ranks.

He spent his 38 years in the service in some far flung corners of the globe. He had two tours to Christmas Island in the Pacific, in 1960 and 1962, where he was the medical officer in charge, and where, during the latter posting, atomic tests were being carried out by the United States. At other times he served in Akrotiri in Cyprus, Wegberg

(the only RAF hospital in Germany) and Salalah in Oman.

It was during the war in Oman, in the mid-1970s, that he was put in charge of the field surgical team, treating battle casualties. He had some narrow escapes, at one point being in a helicopter with the British commander in Oman (Brigadier J. Akhurst) visiting troops on Christmas Day in 1975 which was forced to land after being hit by fire from communist guerrillas. He was at the RAF's hospital at Changi, during the run-down of British forces in Singapore, 1970-72.

The son of a banker who died when he was eight, David John Davison was educated at the Royal Masonic School, Bushey, where he was headboy and excelled on the athletics field. He won the half mile All England Schoolboy Championship in 1950 and was selected for special training at Mottspur Park by AAA coaches. He never really gave up on sports, and played hockey in Cyprus.

He received his medical training at St Mary's Hospital Medical School in London, and was commissioned into the RAF during National Service in 1956. After early postings as a station medical officer he began his surgical

specialisation, becoming a consultant in 1971. Davison had four tours at the RAF Hospital in the cathedral city of Ely and also ones at Halton and at Wroughton, apart from his postings abroad. He was appointed, successively, Cade Professor of Surgery, 1985-89, Consultant Adviser in RAF Surgery, Dean of RAF Medicine, and RAF Clinical Director.

For many years he lived near Ely, deep in the fens, where, during his rare free moments, he could be found in the greenhouse with his fuchsias.

He leaves his widow, Anne, a son and two daughters.

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# Saudi Arabia remains the prize for British exports

John Major's stopover in Saudi Arabia tomorrow, on route to South Africa, is unlikely to prove just a courtesy call. On his last visit to the kingdom in January 1993, Mr Major came away with an order for 48 Tornado combat aircraft.

Whether he will have the same success this time remains to be seen. But his visit, which will be a courtesy call, is a time when relations between the two countries have seldom been better. Already this month, there has been the announcement that Saudi Arabia is to buy a £750 million package of training aircraft, mainly Hawks from British Aerospace.

The purchase, which comes under the Al Yamamah arms programme, has helped lay to rest fears that British weapon orders could be at risk from the wave of budget cuts ordered by King Fahd of Saudi Arabia at the start of the year. Those concerns were heightened when the kingdom negotiated a slowdown in payments on its

\$30 billion of arms purchases from America at the end of January.

A relieved Ministry of Defence last week welcomed the latest order as a "further indication" of Saudi confidence in the programme. The Saudi government has so far spent about £14 billion under the Al Yamamah agreement, the first phase of which was concluded in 1985 by Margaret Thatcher. Most of the funds have gone to BAE, as main contractor, and with the Tornado order last year, it constitutes the world's largest defence contract.

The order also brings a welcome boost to British-Saudi trade figures, which by the middle of this year were showing a 20 per cent drop on 1993, when British exports to the kingdom totalled £1.8 billion.

Saudi Arabia is still Britain's biggest market outside the developed economies and ranks 11th overall among overseas markets. By far the largest economy in the Middle East, it is, however, feeling some of the recessionary chill that

## As John Major pays a quick visit to the Middle Eastern kingdom, Louise Hidalgo assesses its trade potential

has been blighting Europe. The alarming fall in oil prices earlier this year, combined with a fiscal deficit running at around \$7 billion a year, have forced the Saudis to introduce sweeping 20 per cent cuts in public spending. Analysts believe the effect could be a contraction in the Saudi economy of some 3 per cent this year.

Most British companies in Saudi Arabia are confident, however, that the kingdom's current woes are temporary. Abid Rawan, general manager of Glaxo Saudi Arabia, 49 per cent shareholder in a new £15 million pharmaceutical Saudi factory. "There is no doubt that there is a cash-flow problem that is bad for the economy. But this is a country with huge reserves and potential," he said.

Glaxo is involved in one of the

five joint ventures that have so far come to fruition under the economic offset agreement between Riyadh and London, which forms part of the Al Yamamah defence contract. Under the scheme, the British Government has agreed to encourage British re-investment into Saudi Arabia, to the tune of £1 billion over ten years.

Both Saudi and British officials are eager to make the scheme work, and BAE and the ministry of defence have been working hard to persuade British companies of its advantages. To date, however, there have been few takers — BAE and Rolls Royce, both beneficiaries of the defence contracts, have invested in three projects, while Tate & Lyle, a new £150m sugar refinery in Jeddah, and Glaxo are

the only companies so far to become involved in civil ventures.

There has been some irritation at the slow pace of progress of the programme within the kingdom, with the government determined to diversify industry away from oil and petrochemicals. But British officials point out the long-term nature of the capital intensive projects under discussion — around 20 of them are waiting approval at the moment — and urge patience. British investment in Saudi Arabia already stands at just under a third of all licensed foreign capital in the kingdom, at around £180 million.

The British Government is determined, too, to promote British expertise if, as looks increasingly likely, Saudi Arabia decides to proceed with privatisation of some

of the kingdom's utilities. Observers believe Riyadh could begin privatisation of the telephone network as early as next year and the national airline, Saudia, has also been earmarked for possible self-off.

On a visit to Riyadh in June Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, pushed Britain's experience of privatised industries. Saudi Arabia's friends, however, admit there is a reluctance among British companies to consider the kingdom as an investment option that must be overcome if the British Government's obligations to Riyadh are to be met. It is still seen as a political risk, and not in itself a big enough market to warrant large sums of capital investment.

According to John Grundin, director of the Middle East Association, ignorance also plays a part. "There is still a mystique about Saudi Arabia that remains even today. As a result many export managers prefer to lump the Gulf

states together and operate from the UAE or Dubai, bypassing Saudi altogether. That is not a mistake the big companies make," he said.

Saudi's population is growing at a rate of 3.6 per cent a year, and is expected to reach 21 million by the year 2000. That is also when zero tariffs look likely to be introduced, creating a single trading block among the affluent Gulf states. Increasingly, those companies investing in Saudi Arabia see it as a base for exporting elsewhere.

Peter Cheshire, Middle East business development manager for Tate & Lyle, warns however that winning business in Saudi Arabia is nothing if not tough. "This is no longer a sellers' market; it is a buyers' market and a highly competitive one. But now they have passed the threshold to local production, and the marketing, packaging and distribution networks are all in place, Saudi Arabia is poised for rapid consumer development," he said.

## Two Jardine units delist in Hong Kong

By COLIN NARBROUGH, WORLD TRADE CORRESPONDENT

HONG Kong Land, a Jardine Matheson subsidiary, and Mandarin Oriental, Jardine's hotel group, are withdrawing their secondary listings from the Hong Kong stock exchange.

The delistings, effective next March, follow the decision by Jardine, the "princely" Hong Kong, to leave the crown colony's exchange unless it was exempted from Hong Kong takeover rules.

The departure of Hong Kong Land, which owns 25 per cent of Trafalgar House, the British construction group, and Mandarin, leaves only one Jardine company, Jardine International Motor, listed in Hong Kong.

Half-year results out yesterday showed Hong Kong Land's pre-tax profit rising to \$209.6 million, from \$189.2 million, lifting earnings per share to 6.95 cents, from 6.34 cents. The interim dividend goes up to 3.5 cents, from 3.15

cents. Simon Keswick, the chairman, said rental income would improve this year. He added that Hong Kong Land's financial strength would enable it to pursue further investment in the crown colony and elsewhere. The company's operating profit rose to \$197.3 million in the first half, from \$189 million.

Mandarin Oriental's first-half pre-tax profit rose to \$30.2 million, from \$24.7 million, increasing earnings per share to 3.32 cents, from 2.87 cents. The dividend is being raised to 1.55 cents, from 1.41 cents.

The company said that, like Hong Kong Land, it had become subject to Bermuda legislation, based on London takeover and merger rules, in July. It had sought Hong Kong stock exchange approval of an exemption from local rules, but had been told the application would not succeed.

Mandarin took over management of London's Ritz hotel in May.



Malcolm Thomas, chairman of Hornby Group, which will pay no dividend for an interim that saw losses reduced to £733,000 from £791,000

## Outlook at Midland Newspapers hurts shares

By SARAH BAGNALL

SHARES of Midland Independent Newspapers, the publisher of a stable of newspapers including the Birmingham Post, sank 12p to 142p after the company made a downbeat statement on prospects. The shares now stand at a 2p premium to the 140p paid by investors when the company floated on the stock market in March.

Chris Oakley, chief executive, said it was unlikely the group would "see a more widespread improvement in advertising revenues until the general economic recovery is more fully reflected in increased and maintained consumer confidence".

Mr Oakley's remarks came as he unveiled the group's first results since it joined the market. Pre-tax profits rose 28 per cent to £7.7 million in the six months to June 30. There is a maiden 1.1p interim dividend. The group said the interim payment would be about a third of the annual total. Earnings per share rose to 5.14p (4.21p).

Overall, group advertising revenues rose 27 per cent, of which 13 percentage points were due to acquisitions. The strongest growth was in recruitment advertising, which rose 40 per cent, but other areas reliant on consumer demand, such as property and motors, only advanced 1 per cent and 4 per cent, respectively. The company spent an extra £500,000 in supporting its titles as a result of the national newspaper price war.

Tempus, page 28

## Four finance unions form partnership

FOUR unions representing more than 100,000 employees in financial services have formed a partnership. The Finance Sector Unions (FSU), MSF, the National Union of Insurance Workers, Scottish Equitable staff association and Eagle Star staff union will share resources, information and training provision. Roger Lyons, MSF's general secretary, said: "We invite all other finance sector unions and staff associations to join in as equal partners."

A conference will be held this month to set the agenda for discussions with regulators such as the Securities and Investments Board and the Personal Investment Authority, about the impact of new regulations on salespeople.

## Setback at Hunterprint

HUNTERPRINT, one of Britain's largest commercial printers, suffered a further setback last night after the failure of talks with Quebecor Printing Inc of Canada, over a possible rescue bid. Hunterprint shares tumbled to just 34p from 65p after Tony Caplin, chief executive, warned shareholders that uncertainty over the future ownership had resulted in further pressure from creditors. The stock market now values the company at just £2 million, against £48 million only 18 months ago.

## Ryland valued at £22.7m

SHARES in Ryland Group, the motor dealer, have been priced at 80p each, capitalising it at £22.7 million when it is floated next week. The company, which has 30 franchised operations mainly in the West Midlands, the North West and Northern Ireland, is joining the market via a placing of 10.94 million shares, sponsored by Albert E Sharp. The issue will raise about £7.5 million net, with proceeds used to reduce gearing and expand the business. Dealings in the shares are expected to begin on September 22.

## Premium Bonds popular

PREMIUM Bonds continue to be the most popular National Savings scheme. In August, they contributed £128 million towards total National Savings gross sales of £786 million. Pensioners' Bonds were the next most popular, with sales of £58 million. After repayments of £671 million, net receipts amounted to £115 million. The total amount invested in National Savings at the end of the month stood at £50.3 billion. August's receipts were higher than July's £716 million but lower than June's £830 million.

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THE SUNDAY TIMES

Mexico's Tequila manufacturers, as they struggle back to work with hangers on Monday after the Independence celebrations, will be facing a headache of a different sort: how to protect their product, which is largely British-owned, from cheap imitations.

**Business - The Sunday Times tomorrow**

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سكزا من الاصل



BTR: Alan Jackson and Kathleen O'Donovan

# Strong bonds forged in the heat of battle

partners in power

They make a striking team, but chief executive and finance director didn't always see eye to eye, Neil Bennett says

By rights BTR, the ultimate corporate money machine, should be run by a faceless phalanx of grey men in suits. The £11.6 billion group, which churns out millions of nameless industrial components across the globe, does not produce the household brand names or identifiable products that would earn it a place in the nation's heart. In reality, BTR is run by one of the most striking partnerships in British business. Alan Jackson, chief executive, is a hard-bitten Australian who reeks of mateship and comes with a reputation for devouring any incompetent or backsliding executive unlucky enough to cross his path. Kathleen O'Donovan, his finance director, has an equally fearsome reputation for controlling the group's vast cash resources. She shocked the City three years ago when, as an unknown 34-year-old accountant, she smashed straight through every glass ceiling ever fitted to take one of the most important jobs in British industry.

In many ways, this is a partnership of opposites. Jackson comes straight from the school of life. He started work at 15 as a special apprentice in Mather & Platt, an Australian engineering firm. He took his accountancy qualifications by correspondence course, studying at night, and spent 25 years clawing his way up through the company, from clerk to managing director, before being headhunted to run what is now BTR Nylex.

By contrast, O'Donovan has had it easy. Educated at University College London, she joined an accountancy firm that was eventually merged into Ernst & Young. She distinguished herself quickly, rising to become one of the firm's youngest-ever partners, in charge of the BTR audit account. Then came the offer from BTR. Although they span different generations and grew up on different sides of the world, Jackson and O'Donovan obviously have a strong respect and warm affection for each other. "I've always been regarded as a pretty good accountant but I came across someone who was better," says Jackson. "The team that has been put together in Kathy and myself is unique. I've found it's been a tremendous relationship. They weren't always so close."

Three-and-a-half years ago, when Jackson telephoned to offer her the job, O'Donovan thought she was about to be fired.

When Jackson was running BTR Nylex in the mid-Eighties and O'Donovan was auditing the group, the two used to have regular Richter scale rows about accounting techniques. One of the most explosive was over the treatment of property profits. With 1,900 sites, BTR Nylex is always buying and selling land and Jackson believed it was part of the company's normal trading. But O'Donovan insisted that all the profits went below the line as extraordinary items.

"It was not fiery, but we certainly had a healthy respect for each other," says Jackson. "We never had any really difficult times but we certainly had a lot of debate. I always had a smile on my face."

The battles may have been bruising, but they gave Jackson a respect for O'Donovan that he has for few others. Jackson has a fearsome reputation with finance directors in particular and hired and fired four or five during his time at BTR Nylex. In O'Donovan he saw someone who was prepared to work almost as hard as he was.

"She was the only auditor I know that spent more time round our factories than many of our executives," he says.

The rows went on over the years until Jackson landed the top job at BTR. He was short of a finance director and the few candidates the headhunters suggested did not even survive a lunch meeting. That was when Jackson realised O'Donovan was the only person for the job, even though he knew that many in the City, as well as some of BTR's directors, would throw up their hands in horror at the idea of a 34-year-old woman being appointed to the board.

Jackson knew he needed a strong finance director. As soon as he arrived at BTR's head office at the beginning of 1991, he promised to make a large acquisition. He already had Hawker Siddeley in mind and BTR's strategy team was working on the numbers. On the way, he was hoping to buy Rockware in the US and sell Pretty Polly. That year turned out to be one of the most tumultuous in BTR's history and Jackson knew that the group could not carry any passengers. "We needed to have someone aboard who was a damn good accountant, who had a thor-

ough knowledge of the company.

To grow the company we had to have the right tools. The ability to exercise financial control was fundamental and no one was coming forward who was going to be a hands-on finance director," he says.

But Jackson had had another row with O'Donovan a few weeks earlier about BTR's 1990 accounts. "I felt it was worth finding out who was boss," he says.

"Kathy thought that because of this and a couple of other little clashes we had had in earlier years, maybe we weren't going to see eye to eye and maybe she should move away from the audit."

So when Jackson called O'Donovan from Australia, she thought her number was up. Even worse, he insisted she took the call in a room on her own and apologised for not talking to her face to face, before he finally popped the question.

Jackson and O'Donovan were bonded together in the successive takeover battles of 1991. "Kathy and I have never had a brush word since we've been together. We have debates but we sit there and work as a terribly close team."

They talk daily, rarely writing



Relations have occasionally been thorny between Kathleen O'Donovan and Alan Jackson, but they obviously have a strong respect and warm affection for each other

memos, despite Jackson's continual globe-trotting tours of BTR's operations. Jackson, once the scourge of finance directors down under, now relies completely on O'Donovan for much of the group's financial management. "I wouldn't even attempt to read a loan agreement today. I've never delegated underwriting agreements before, often, now, I don't even look at them."

Above all, this is a working team. Jackson is at his best in his shirtsleeves, holding the reins of BTR's thousand-plus subsidiaries together. The pair are least comfortable doing the inevitable meet-and-greet duties that come with running a large business — the meetings with journalists and City analysts; the lunches with dignitaries. To them, this gets in the way of the business of driving BTR's earnings and dividend ever higher.

They say their greatest achievement is not the explosive acquisition of Hawker, but all their work afterwards to improve the group's cash flow to gear it up for the next big deal.

In contrast to Jackson's gruff affability, O'Donovan bristles with nerves and self-consciousness when interviewed, more corporate

hostility than corporate hospitality. She does not like having her photograph taken, or talking about herself or her personal life, least of all to journalists. "I have yet to see the point of any of this," she says. "I just want to do my job every day and go home."

O'Donovan has not always been a high-flyer. She graduated with a respectable but unexceptional 2.2 degree in economics. She passed her accountancy exams ably but not brilliantly. It was only then that her sheer determination and capacity for work so impressed Ernst & Young and she was rapidly promoted to partner.

When she was offered the job by Jackson, even after she realised she wasn't being fired, she did not leap at it, but asked for two weeks to consider. It was the public profile that put her off the idea, and still does.

It is typical of her, however, that despite her shyness, she is hugely impressive in City presentations. Analysis never fails to be dazzled by her grasp of BTR's financial data and her memory for figures. Her determination beats her dislike of

public performances every time. Clearly, the only reason she allowed herself to be dragged into an interview at all is her affection and respect for Jackson. "Alan has a tremendous instinct about people and deals and the right moment to do something. You don't get that in the professions. As a professional, you are allowed this cogitation time, it is part of the mystique. At BTR, a lot of decisions have to be made quickly."

Jackson's hire-and-fire reputation was also, strangely, a factor in her decision to come to BTR. "In the end, the great thing was that there would be no hanging about. There would not be any of this desperately embarrassing affair of everybody moaning behind my back saying 'she's completely incompetent, we had better ease her out', which would be dreadful. Alan is one of those people who would tell you if you are no good."

Her sensitivity about the press extends to the rough ride that Jackson and BTR have been given over the past year. BTR was subject to a whispering campaign in the City last year which produced a series of fictional tales about BTR's finances, and even suggested that

Jackson was suffering from financial and health problems. He said: "It's said I've died of cancer four times and gone broke at Lloyd's. It's garbage reporting. I'd go out and punch them on the nose, that's the Aussie approach. But in some of those things Kathy has been more upset for me than I have been."

BTR has fallen out of favour in the City recently. This was demonstrated dramatically two weeks ago, when the group's market value slumped by £1.6 billion after the interim results, which showed some pressure on margins. Jackson and O'Donovan's reaction is to tough it out and produce figures that will win investors back.

Close as the relationship is, it cannot last. Jackson is 58 and will probably retire in the next five years. He refuses to be drawn on who his successor should be and says he would welcome applications from all the executive directors. But many close to the company assume that O'Donovan is the heir apparent. She is keeping her ambitions tightly secret, but they clearly extend beyond her current job. Since, aged 37, she has another 25 years ahead at the top of British industry.

## Credibility is the name of the game two years after sterling's ERM exit

Jobs and elections are eclipsed in Treasury thinking as fighting inflation rules, says Janet Bush



Kenneth Clarke with Eddie George, who has won extra clout after sterling's ERM fiasco

Credibility, credibility, credibility — the new mantra of the mandarins. ERM, ERM, ERM — the old chant that suddenly lost its soothing meditative power when sterling was abruptly thrown out of Europe's currency system. Officials at the Treasury and the Bank of England — all of whom, barring Norman Lamont, the fall-guy for a failed policy, are still in their jobs — are still trying to live down the debacle of September 16, 1992. Rebuilding credibility dominates official thinking.

It was a key ingredient in the decision to raise base rates this week, the second anniversary of sterling's exit from the exchange-rate mechanism. Although the public explanation for the move was that the economy is currently growing too fast to be sustainable, the factor that tipped a very fine balance in favour of an early touch on the brakes was "credibility".

It has been a recurring theme of the published minutes of monthly monetary meetings between Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, and Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, and

will no doubt be a key phrase in minutes of their key meeting a week and a half ago.

In laying groundwork for the half-point rise in base rates, the Bank of England has repeatedly used the credibility argument as a powerful weapon against any intransigence by the Chancellor. In its May Inflation Report, the Bank virtually laid the blame for sharply rising gilt yields at the door of Mr Clarke, who had insisted on a quarter-point cut in base rates in February, a cut too far in the Bank's view.

Threadneedle Street officials genuinely believe that gilt yields rose further than other markets during this year's global bond market fallout because financial markets mistrust a government that pinned its faith on a policy that the dealer-corners had already pronounced dead. Kenneth Clarke has, it

appears, from his discussions with Mr George and his willingness to raise the hackles of beleaguered backbench Tory MPs with his hair-shirt attitude to fiscal and monetary policy, bought the credibility argument. In a very real sense, the ERM debacle two years ago yesterday, continues to throw a long and potentially damaging shadow over Britain's economic management.

The key impact of White Wednesday — apart from the obvious benefits of loosening the stranglehold of extremely high interest rates and so allowing the economy to start on its recovery — is the skewing of policy entirely towards beating inflation.

It was in the disastrous aftermath of September 16, 1992, that the Treasury hastily conceived its inflation target. The promise to aim to

get inflation into the bottom half of this target range of 1 per cent to 4 per cent was almost a throw-away piece of parliamentary bluster by Norman Lamont that autumn, but is now the centrepiece of government economic policy.

Part of the explanation for Monday's pre-emptive strike was, according to officials, the fact that the "bottom half" policy has now become "operational". What that actually means is that the Bank of England is forcing the Government to take it seriously, whatever that means for the popularity of the Tory Party and its electoral prospects.

The reason that the Bank has such influence is, itself, a result of the credibility-rebuilding exercise that was mobilised after White Wednesday. The Treasury, nursing the open wound of its failed policy, felt forced to give up its unambiguous

supremacy over the central bank by allowing its advice to be made public through the Inflation Report and the publication of minutes.

Eddie George would never have been able to wield as much clout if it had not been for the ERM fiasco in which he and his officials played a not inconsiderable part.

The public nature of the Bank's advice to the Chancellor, coupled with the Treasury's redefinition of the central bank's role to make it solely concerned with hitting the inflation target, has elevated the fight against inflation unequivocally and permanently above all other considerations such as job creation, investment, living standards, and electability.

Based policy entirely on inflation credibility is doubtless misguided. The trust of the markets takes years to build up and minutes to tear down. The latest base-rate rise was supposed to win credibility, yet in every maturity gilt-edged yields have risen since the decision was made. It only took one not very alarming rise in inflation on Wednesday for the Government to lose any kudos gained with the markets on Monday.

There is, furthermore, a new, much greater threat to the Government's post-ERM credibility. The Europeans are already beginning to intensify talk about a single currency, challenging Britain to say whether it will come in or stay out. The Government is far from shaking off the memories of two years ago.

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## STOCK MARKET

PHILIP PANGALOS

## Geest shows the way as equities come a cropper

THE market ended the week on a volatile note, with dealers' screens a sea of red and £8.79 billion wiped off the value of shares in London as the FT-SE 100 index tumbled through the 3,100 level.

Equities slipped on a banana skin, along with Geest, which is one of the UK's largest banana suppliers. Its shares slid 30p to 21p, on thin volume of 693,000 traded, after the fresh fruit group reported extensive flooding at its plantations in the Windward Isles after the onset of tropical storm Debbie.

The group, where David Sugden is chief executive, said that Windward banana production, which accounts for 55 per cent of Geest's total banana volume, is expected to be about 40 per cent below normal levels for the remainder of 1994 and will also affect 1995. Geest, which is due to announce its interim results next Thursday, confirmed it has alternative sources of supply and is looking at reconfiguring shipping schedules.

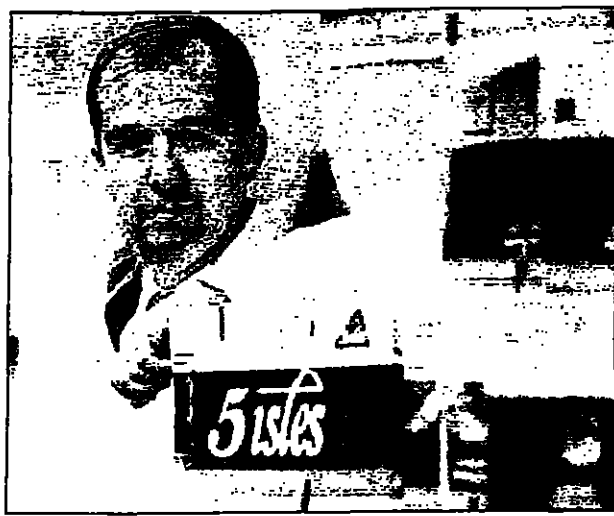
Pyrites, its fellow banana group, reacted to the news with a 2p fall to 98p. Meanwhile, technical factors more than wiped out Thursday's gains for equities. An initial Wall Street-inspired 20-point advance was short-lived and the FT-SE 100 index fell back through the 3,100 level and headed sharply lower as the day progressed.

Sentiment was rattled by higher-than-expected PSBR numbers, though the market trend was dictated by the expiry of the September futures and options contracts.

The release of US capacity utilisation figures for July and industrial production for August saw a further mark-down for shares as the strong US economic data prompted renewed fears of further US interest rate rises. The US bond market fell, which in turn hit Wall Street, already unsettled by the prospect of triple witching hour tonight.

The Dow Jones industrial average nursed an early 40-point deficit. Glits suffered losses of up to 1 1/4% at the longer end, which combined with sharply lower futures and the negative start on Wall Street to further depress sentiment in London. The FT-SE 100 index ended near its worst, closing down 47.6 at 3,065.1. Volume was thin, at 568.6 million shares.

The latest slide has seen the



David Sugden says Geest has alternative banana supplies

FT-SE 100 lost 74.2 points this week and 176.4 points over the last nine sessions.

Water stocks bucked the general market trend, however, helped as James Capel, the broker, reiterated its positive stance on the sector. Capel has upgraded its dividend and cash flow numbers.

Most gains were eroded at the close, though Southern added 10p to 57p, Northumbrian Water, 5p to 66p.

Shares in Betterware sank to a new low of 50p, down 23p, which compares with a peak of 278p last year. The latest slide comes after the door-to-door retailing group gave warning that first-half operating profits will not exceed £4 million after a "further slowdown" in trade during July and August.

North West, 2p to 53p, Severn Trent, 1p to 54p, South West, 1p to 53p, Thames, 5p to 50p and Welsh, 5p to 66p.

Most leaders were marked down. Among them, Glaxo retreated 17p to 54p, Wellcome, 23p to 65p, PowerGen, 15p to 53p, Coats Vye, 11p to 202p, Caradon, 14p to 276p, NCF, 7p to 159p, GRE, 7p to 182p and National Westminster, 14p to 483p.

Elsewhere, Sainsbury lost 7p to 43p after reports that

Hoare Govett, the broker, rates the stock as overvalued, while Tesco, due to report interim figures next week, eased 2p to 248p.

Market talk of a sell recommendation by BZW, the broker, saw Kingfisher retreat 15p to 48p, while Siebe stood out as best closing squeezed the shares up 7p to 57p, on volume of 1.01 million.

Cadbury Schweppes failed to hold on to an 8p gain,

which have had a good run recently, were on offer, losing 15p to 243p, with 13.7 million traded, on the basis that the rate of growth may be slowing.

Bruntcliffe Aggregates firmed up to 32p as the company accompanied higher interim profits with news that it has decided to concentrate on its quarry products operations and dispose of its loss-making US coal business.

Rancho Energy caused a flurry of excitement on the USM as its shares bucked the gloomy trend with a 37p surge to 256p, giving a two-day gain of 54p. Talk is that the group is on the verge of announcing a deal in Azerbaijan.

Strong summer holiday booking figures at Owners Abroad lifted the shares 7p to 119p. Owners, which is changing its name to First Choice Holidays, said summer bookings under the new First Choice brand are up 42.4 per cent on last year. Rival Airtravellers fell 7p to 44p.

Falcon Holdings slipped back from a high of 148p to end at 139p, up 4p, after the company said it knows of no reason for the recent upward movement in its share price.

APV lost another 8p to 75p, giving a two-day loss of 42p, after a dividend cut.

New issue Independent Parts Group, made a healthy market debut in spite of the negative trend. IPG ended at 120p, giving an 8p premium on the 112p placing price.

GILT-EDGED: Gilts ended sharply lower, with losses among cash stocks stretching to 1 1/4% among longer-dated stocks. They started on a weak note, with the market drifting lower along with other European bond markets and the higher-than-expected PSBR figures. The strong US economic data unsettled bonds, which further depressed gilts.

There was news that the latest gilt auction, due on September 28, will have a maturity of between 2004 and 2016. The auction is likely to raise £2 billion, although most dealers expect nearer £2 billion-£2.5 billion in current market conditions. The December long gilt future ended 45 ticks lower at 989 1/2, on moderate volume of 70,000 contracts traded.

NEW YORK: A sharp sell-off in bonds amid renewed fears of inflation put pressure on shares. At midday, the Dow Jones industrial average was down 33.98 at 3,919.90.

## MOVERS OF THE WEEK

Current	Week's
Rancho Energy	256p
Geest	21p
Country Casuals	108p
Everest Foods	123p
DRS Data	41p
APV	75p
Betterware	50p
Hunterpact	51p

## COMMODITIES

FCIS-LOR (London 0.00m)			GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES					
CRUDE OILS \$/barrel FOB			WHEAT		BARLEY			
	Settle	Close E/F	Settle	Close E/F	Settle	Close E/F		
Brent Physical	15.30	n/c	Sep	106.75	Sep	102.95		
Brent Brs 60 day	15.85	n/c	Nov	108.05	Nov	104.30		
Brent 3 1/2 year (Nov)	15.90	-0.05	Mar	110.10	Mar	106.10		
WTI Intermediate (Nov)	15.85	n/c	May	112.10	May	108.45		
WTI Intermediate (Nov)	17.20	n/c	May	114.00	May	110.50		
PRODUCTS \$/MT			Volume 672		Volume 2			
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)			POTATO E/F		Open: 190.0			
Premium Gas J5	18 1/8-1/2	Q 172-1/2	Oct		Close			
Light Diesel	14 1/2	148 0/0	Nov		190.0			
Nov EEC H/L	148 1/4	n/c	Apr	224.0	222.6			
Nov EEC H/N	151 1/4	153 1/4	May		Volume	75		
2.5 Fuel Oil	72 1/2	n/c						
Naptha	195 1/4	150 -1/2						
LPE FUTURES (GNI Ld)			RUBBER (No 1 RSS CFI p/c)		Volume 3			
	Settle	Close	Oct	78.75-79.75				
Oct	154.75-155.75							
Nov	153.00-153.75	Feb 155.75-156.75						
Dec	150.00-93.25	Vol 7077						
BREANT (0.00m)			BUFFET (GNI Ld \$100/p)					
15.50-15.51	Feb	16.18-16.22	Sep 04	High	Low	Close		
16.18-16.22	Mar	16.75-16.78	Oct 04	1575	1560	1568		
16.11-16.11	Vol	Vol 4962	Nov 04	1565	1560	1593		
			Jan 05	1570	1560	1568		
			Vol 283 lots	Open 1568.25-25.75				
				Index 1537 + 10				
Official (Volume prep day)			LONDON METAL EXCHANGE			Realist World		
Copper Price A \$/tonnes			Cash 2400-2460 s	3mths 2445-2495 S	Vol 4000			
Lead 10 tonnes			61 13/16-0.14	62.86-0.027 0.00	178600			
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# WEEKEND MONEY

## TELE-BANKING 31

Paying the bills after hours is getting easier

## SAILS FOR SALE 35

How to buy your first boat without running aground



Should you grab a fixed-rate mortgage? Sara McConnell assesses the effects on savings and loans of this week's move

## Borrowers find themselves in an interest-rate fix

This week's half-point rise in base rates, the first for five years, came as an unwelcome surprise to borrowers, who now face paying more for their loans. But this is not the end of it. Analysts and lenders are predicting base rates could reach 8 per cent next summer, from 5.75 per cent now.

This would add £53.80 a month to the cost of servicing a £50,000 repayment loan if mortgage rates went up to 9.5 per cent and £68.83 a month if rates went up to 10 per cent, said Halifax Building Society.

So far, only Abbey National, Nationwide and Northern Rock have put up mortgage rates. Abbey National's new rate is 8.09 per cent, a rise of

0.35 per cent. This will add £250 a week to a £50,000 repayment loan. Nationwide's new rate is 8.14 per cent on loans of less than £60,000, 8.04 per cent for loans between £60,000 and £119,999 and 7.94 per cent for loans between £120,000 and £300,000. Northern Rock has raised its rate to 8.14 per cent. Other lenders are certain to announce higher rates next week, despite their prediction that higher rates could kill any fragile recovery.

So should you fix your rate now, to protect yourself from further rises? The answer from lenders and mortgage brokers is a resounding "Yes... but hurry!". The cost to lenders of borrowing in the money markets to fund fixed-

rate mortgages is increasing in expectation of further rate rises. National & Provincial has replaced its fixed rates with dealer ones. Its five-year fix at 8.35 per cent has been replaced by 8.75 per cent until 1999. Several lenders, including Halifax, Household Mortgage Corporation and Britannia, have withdrawn some or all of their fixes. Others are likely to announce new rates next week.

Long-term fixes, for five years or more, are expected to be very thin on the ground and two and three-year fixes will almost certainly cost more. Simon Tyler, marketing director of Chase de Vere Mortgage Management, the mortgage broker, says: "If you can fix below double figures for five to ten years, do it. Building society rates are moving up fast". It is still possible to get a loan fixed at about 8.5 per cent over five years from several lenders. The average mortgage rate over the last ten years was 11.97 per cent, while over 25 years the average was 11.27 per cent. Either way, fixing at below 10 per cent for part of the term looks tempting. Mr Tyler adds that rates can rise quickly over a short time. In October 1977, for instance, the base rate was 5 per cent, 14 months later, it was 14 per cent.

Many people who have put off a change from variable to fixed are having second thoughts, says Ian Darby, marketing manager at John Charcol, the broker. When rates were falling, borrowers were frightened of locking into a fixed rate that might turn out dearer than staying with a variable rate.

This, though, is a chance you have to take, lenders say. The Halifax says: "Fixed rates are a gamble. And it's a human nature. If a variable rate is lower than a fixed rate, people will go for the variable".



Fixed asset rate rises hold no fears for Irene Gill who decided against variable interest

## What you need to know before fixing rates

■ **Rates.** A five-year fixed-rate at less than 9 per cent, a three-year at less than 7.5 per cent or a two-year at 5.75 per cent or less, is a good deal. You would normally expect to pay more for longer term loans as a "premium" for the extra security of knowing what your payments will be for the next five or ten years.

■ **Charges for buying.** These are as important as the rate you will be paying. You can expect to pay an upfront fee of £200 to £300 for booking the money. Find out if this is refundable. If you cannot complete (because of a bad survey for example) you want to be able to get your money back.

■ **Charges for remortgaging.** If you want to stay put but remortgage, exchanging a variable for a fixed rate can be expensive. It should be cheaper to take out a fixed rate with your existing lender because you will probably not have to have your home revalued and you will not have to pay legal fees for having the title deeds reissued in the name of the new lender. The Halifax charges a £100 transfer fee plus the upfront fee (see above) to existing customers remortgaging. The Abbey charges nothing and waives the booking fee for existing customers. But check the rate you will be paying — some lenders, for example, the Britannia, charge existing borrowers remortgaging a higher fixed rate over the same period than customers moving house.

■ **Compulsory insurance.** Some lenders make you take out their own buildings and/or contents insurance as part of the deal. You may not want to do this, either because it is more expensive than that of other insurers or because you already have your own. You may also have to take out mortgage payment protection insurance which pays your mortgage if you lose your job or cannot work through illness or disability, which can be expensive.

■ **Penalties.** If you want to redeem a fixed-rate loan before the end of its fixed term, you will have to pay a penalty of several months' gross interest. The longer the fixed term, the higher the penalty you will have to pay. You will normally be able to take your fixed rate with you when you move to a new house. But getting out of a fixed rate which has become uncompetitive can be expensive.

## Something to smile about for the savers

Savers who have watched interest on their deposit accounts dwindle over the last five years should at last have something to crow about after this week's base rate rise. So far, only a few banks and building societies have raised savers' rates. But others promise an announcement soon.

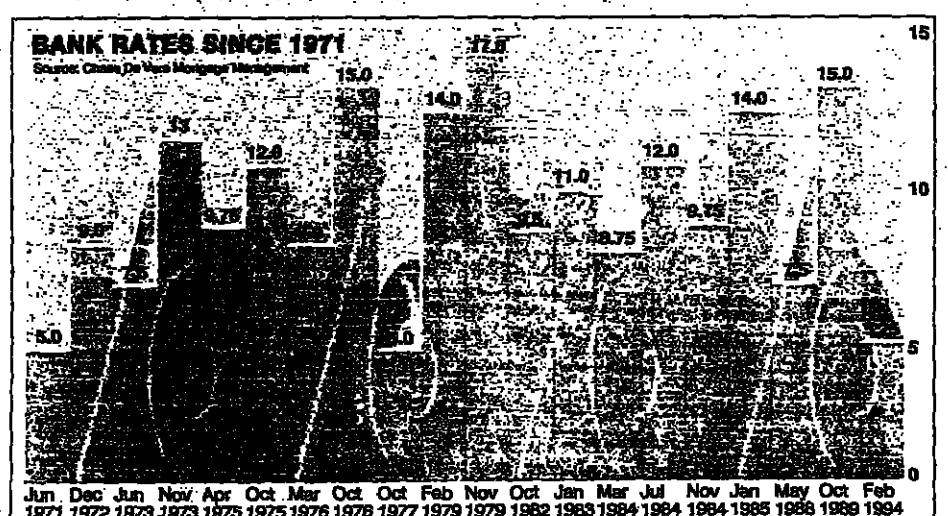
How much more interest you will get depends on what sort of account you have and the amount of money you have in it. Banks and building societies are being selective. In some cases, you may get 0.5 per cent more on your savings. Alternatively, you may get nothing, or less than the full amount of the rate rise.

Nationwide has announced increases of up to 0.5 per cent for some savers in its Cash-Builder Instant Access account. Balances of between £500 and £1,999 will earn an extra 0.5 per cent. Balances of between £2,000 and £9,999

will get an extra 0.1 per cent and balances of £10,000 to £24,999 an extra 0.3 per cent. Other CashBuilder rates are unchanged but further rises will be announced shortly.

The Halifax, which has not yet raised its mortgage rate, will pay more interest to some savers in its Stepped Income Reserve and Guaranteed Reserve accounts. If you are in the first year of a five-year Stepped Income Reserve account, you will get 0.25 per cent more annually. In the fifth year, you will get 0.75 per cent extra annually. Rates on the Guaranteed Reserve account will rise by between 0.2 per cent and 0.3 per cent.

Savers' rates at Barclays, which has not yet raised its home loans, have risen by between 0.25 per cent and 0.75 per cent. Barclays Select, the 90-day savings account, will pay 0.75 per cent more annually on £2,000 and over.



## Gambling on rates going up

WHEN Irene Gill heard about this week's interest rate rise, her first reaction was relief. Less than two months ago, she bought a new flat in Surrey, with a fixed-rate mortgage of 7.74 per cent over five years.

As her mortgage is only set to last ten years, she knows how much her monthly outgoings will be for half the term of her loan. Being able to budget is an important priority for her.

She says: "I felt interest rates had gone down as far as they would go and that logically they could only go up. Of course it is always a gamble. I was glad I had a fixed rate when I heard that rates had gone up. But it's a blow for people on variable."

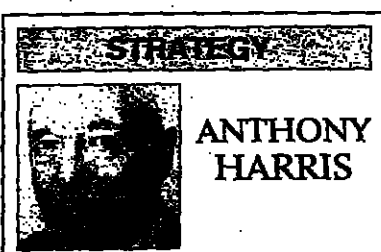
Abbey National, her lender, wanted a £300 upfront fee. Mrs Gill also had to take out buildings insurance through Abbey National, and a mortgage payment protection policy. But none of this worried her. "I can see the need for it," she says.

## The wisdom of the tortoise

When markets are nervous, as they have been this week, it is easy to give way to hindsight. "Ten billion pounds were wiped off share values today," your car radio tells you depressingly. Damn; if I hadn't been so busy, I might have sold. It is a quirk of language that they can't so readily say on good days that £10 billion were "wiped on", so these futile regrets are usually about missed selling opportunities; but whether you have stock and are tempted to sell, or (more unusually) have idle cash and wish you had bought, suppress the thought. The easiest way to do badly in the securities markets is to try too hard.

But this is also the hardest lesson to learn. Even market professionals regularly fall into the trap. US mutual funds are the equivalent of our unit trusts, but provide more detailed information on their trades: so an enterprising journalist was able to show, years ago, that nearly 90 per cent of them lost money trading. This did not mean that investors necessarily lost money; simply that they might have made more. For if these funds had stuck with the portfolios they held on January 1, and sent their investment managers on a year's holiday, they would have achieved more than they did by picking new shares, trying to sell at the top and buy at the bottom of every passing wavelet and generally getting busy.

Another country at another time? Not a bit of it. Though there is no parallel study of British unit trusts, the



ANTHONY HARRIS

WMI organisation analyses the performance of nearly all the big British pension funds, and its conclusion is much the same. The commonest reason for under-performance is overactivity. And specialist techniques may be no better. One delightful example from a couple of years ago was a fund based on scientific timing — spotting the tops and bottoms. This fund started the year with an excellent portfolio, which would have beaten the averages by some 20 per cent; but the application of scientific timing turned this potential profit into an equal loss. And you and I are not even scientific.

The obvious reason why more effort means less reward is the cost of trading. Brokerage is quite expensive for the private client, but it is much less so for professionals. However, the spread between bid and offer prices is a sizeable cost for everyone, especially for holders of the small company shares recently commended in these pages. Buy and sell on a 10 per cent market swing (160 points on the All-share, the index you should follow), and up to half your profit goes to the

City. And that is when you get it exactly right, an unlikely best case.

A more insidious reason is psychology: a restless investor loses sleep over his best investments, for fear that he is missing the best moment to take his profit. His good pick goes on rising, as good picks do, and he only gets more nervous; in the end he sells, usually years too soon, and gets a good night's sleep. Then, he reaps his real reward — boasting about his profits in the saloon bar. You have met him? Learn to recognise a fool.

One of the oldest and soundest sayings in market folklore is: "Cut your losses, but run your gains," which is the way information gets into the market. For all the efforts of analysts, the qualities which make a winner may take years to appear in full — tight management, a brilliant touch in product innovation, a sharp eye for acquisitions. A fluke or a reality? It takes ages to be sure, and for all that time, the price is simply catching up with reality.

None of this means simply going to sleep, which would be no fun at all. But be sure that your decisions are based on foresight, not hindsight. If you invest steadily out of income, as most people do, keep it steady, and get arithmetic on your side: without even watching the market, you will buy more shares when they are cheap than when they are dear. And when you do pick a winner, sleep better, not worse. It was the tortoise that won the race.

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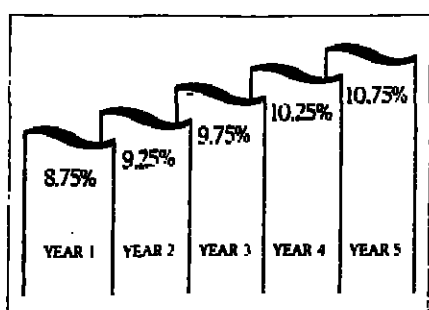
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# If illness strikes you down, insurance may be critical

Cover against getting seriously ill is becoming more popular  
**Nicola Cole reports**

Insurers report a gradual increase in the number of people who take out critical illness protection (CIP) policies, which pay out in the event of life-threatening conditions such as cancer and heart disease. Currently, just 1 per cent of the working population is covered by CIP, but, although only 230,000 personal and corporate CIP plans were sold in 1993, sales were up by almost 100,000 on 1991 levels.

Malcolm Oliver, marketing director of Barclays Life, predicts continued growth, generated by pressure on State benefit costs as the retired population expands — a point echoed by all insurers. But, the public has remained relatively ignorant of the existence of CIP. Most of the business is generated by brokers, solicitors and other independent advisers. But they find it hard to recommend particular products given the medical complexities. Price is, thus, less of an issue than with investment products — it is more a matter of getting the message across, says Barclays Life, which launched its Critical Illness Benefit plan last year.

Abbey Life, which enjoys a 28 per cent market share and has paid CIP claims worth £17.2 million since 1987, says about two-thirds of the 540,000 people who annually suffer coronary and cancer — the source of 62 per cent of all claims — survive for a year at least.

Companies marketing such



Shadowlands: C S Lewis (Anthony Hopkins) learns his wife (Debra Winger) is dying

products have been accused of using scare tactics to drum up business. But, they say critical illness cover is at least as important as life assurance. Allied Dunbar, which has paid more than £13 million in CIP claims over the past five years, points out that victims may be left unable to work,

repay home loans, look after children, or fund necessary home alterations.

Critical illness protection providers say they are aiming to become more competitive. They predict a greater choice of products and potentially lower premiums.

Norwich Union, already

one of the largest CIP providers, is planning to launch two new policies. One is a straight critical illness plan and the other "a very, very competitively-priced" CIP product to be linked to a repayment mortgage.

This follows Guardian's launch, in March, of Homeguard, the first mortgage-related policy to offer CIP benefits. Zurich Life has a similar, though not directly comparable, product.

Scottish Provident's Self Assurance plan now has 11 extra options for those willing to pay a small extra charge. These include benign brain tumours, severe burns, coma and loss of speech or hearing, plus

## Financial support from Bupa

BUPA, Britain's biggest health insurer, is extending its operations from the purely medical to related financial areas. Three of four new insurance plans launched this week by Bupa offer various forms of financial support for the sick. Medical insurance premiums are cut by 30 per cent for those buying the complete package.

The new products are: Disability income: pays a regular income to people who cannot work because of serious illness or injury, or if they need care during retirement. Benefit is also payable to those whose main occupation is running a home. People with private medical insurance cover get part, or all, of their premiums paid while they are receiving disability benefit. Cover does not cease on retirement.

Critical illness cover: This pays a tax-free lump sum if one of a list of specified conditions is diagnosed. Cover is free for under-18s and continues for life.

Recovery cash: pays a tax-free lump sum to those undergoing operations, whether privately or under the NHS.

Local HospitalCare: low-price private medical insurance for those willing to be treated at a specified local hospital.

LIZ DOLAN

## CIP: FACTS AND FIGURES

■ The leading suppliers of critical illness protection (CIP) are: Abbey Life, Allied Dunbar, Barclays, Commercial Union, Hambro, Norwich Union and Private Patients Plan.

■ Premiums start at £15 a month, based on sex, age, health and level of cover.

■ More than 60 per cent of claimants are under 45.

■ Payouts are free of income and capital gains tax.

■ Lump-sum payments are

made after diagnosis by a GP or consultant of a condition covered by the policy. Insurers will sometimes seek a second opinion from their own medical experts if they consider the case to be less than clear-cut.

■ Speed of payment varies from "instantly" to a year or more, depending on ease of diagnosis. Multiple sclerosis, for example, commonly involves a wait of at least 12 months. In any event, claim-

ants must survive between 21 and 28 days after diagnosis to qualify for payment.

■ Standard features include inflation-linked cover and optional waivers to ensure premiums are continued in the event of illness or injury not covered by the policy.

■ Free-standing CIPs differ markedly in the range of illnesses covered, options and contract terms. Some pay out only if particular conditions arise before a certain age.

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Single female, 30	£25.82 pm	£23.54 pm	£24.83 pm	£21.40 pm
Couple m40, 37	£147.07 pm	£93.55 pm	£160.10 pm	£111.40 pm

All figures are for non-smokers

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Source: Union Bank of Switzerland

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## Counting on the quality of accountants

A pensioner faces being taxed twice on her income because her accountants fail to apply in time to the Inland Revenue for transitional relief. The Revenue has changed its rules, hence the transitional relief, but refuses to allow the late application. It is unmoved by her accountants' pleadings that she is old, there is a lot of money at stake and that her tax affairs are complex. The accountants try another tack — their work has been disrupted by a partnership split. But this cuts no ice with the Revenue.

This tale, told this week by Elizabeth Filkin, the Inland Revenue Adjudicator, in her first annual report, is worrying. Not because Ms Filkin sided with the Revenue — she was right to — but because it shows how

ordinary people are being penalised by an over-complex tax system, often hindered by the very professionals they are paying to help them through it.

There are many skilled accountants, who are worth every penny of their fees. They know their reputations depend on fair dealing with the Revenue, minimising clients' tax bills without crossing the thin line between that and tax evasion. But there are others who cost their unsuspecting customers money, either because they do not know the rules and do not make sure they claim all relief due or, more seriously, by encouraging them into tax evasion.

When caught out, they take refuge in feeble excuses and try to blame the Revenue.

As the system stands, there is no way of knowing, objectively, whether your accountant is good or bad. Word of mouth is one way of finding one, as long as you trust the judgment of your friends and relations. But anyone can set him or herself up as a "tax consultant" without having to have any qualifications. Unless the accountant is auditing the reports of a limited company, there is no need for them to be chartered. But choosing the wrong accountant can be a costly mistake.

Reputable firms are well aware of the

detrimental effect cowboy accountants and tax advisers have on their profession and are keen to put their house in order. A step in the right direction would be to require tax advisers charging a fee for their advice to have an acceptable formal qualification. This is no guarantee, as any reader of these pages will know, but it would give taxpayers some reassurance that their accountant knows the rules.

They need all the reassurance they can get. In its attempt to put up taxes without anyone noticing, the Government has created an over-complex tax system, which even its own officials do not always understand. This makes it all the more important that people with more complicated tax affairs have an accountant they can rely on.

## Let your fingers do the banking



Calling to account: Helen Olier can pay her bills out of normal banking hours

### Early convert enjoys flexibility

HELEN Olier took little persuading to sign up with Barclaycall and was one of its first customers in the pilot scheme. She says: "As soon as I received the information in the post, I thought telephone banking would suit me."

Mrs Olier, a secretary from Staffordshire, has not lost touch with her local branch, however. She adds: "I do still use it. I know the people in

there. Sometimes it's nice to do business face to face, so it's good that it's still there for me — and I use the cashpoint, of course."

Like many other telephone banking converts, Mrs Olier enjoys the flexibility that Barclaycall affords her. As she puts it: "I find that I use it in the early evenings, when I get home from work mostly. But there is the odd occasion

when I get up in the morning and remember a bill that's got to be paid that day, or money to transfer. I like the fact that I can pick up the telephone as soon as I remember."

Mrs Olier admits she has yet to test the Barclaycall system with an unusual request but adds: "I can't say that I've got any complaints at all."

ROBERT MILLER

BARCLAYS Bank is to join the telephone banking bandwagon. Next month, it will launch Barclaycall, a nationwide service capable of signing up 20,000 clients a month.

The move by Barclays into a full telephone banking operation comes after an 18-month pilot scheme involving 15,000 customers. Barclaycall will be open from 7 am to 11 pm on weekdays — including Bank Holidays — and 9 am to 5 pm at weekends, 365 days a year.

The year-round service from Barclaycall, which is based in Coventry, puts it on a par with competitors such as the Co-operative Bank, Lloyds, Midland's First Direct, Royal Bank of Scotland, Girobank, Bank of Scotland, TSB and NatWest, which also offer services operated by humans rather than tone pads.

The Alliance & Leicester and Britannia building societies are also in the market.

Banks' research has shown that demand for telephone banking services is high. The Co-op, for example, this week forecast that its "armchair

Clients seem to like it, and it suits the banks just fine.

Telephone banking is growing fast, says Robert Miller

banking" service would handle 4.5 million calls this year. Telephone banking also suits the banks. In the past four years, they have closed thousands of branches, forcing customers to travel miles further. Telephone banking is also considerably cheaper to operate because all staff are at one location.

The uses of telephone banking continue to grow. This week, NatWest unveiled a service for students, StudentLine, on 0645 603040, will be staffed by trained student officers. Calls are at local rates. Jim Murphy, president of the National Union of Students, says: "It is important that students

have access to trained advisors and counsellors. A free telephone service is an excellent idea and one which students will welcome."

Generally, telephone banking allows you to execute normal transactions, such as paying bills, ordering statements and foreign currency and transferring funds, for the cost of a local call. TSB and Lloyds offer free calls.

Terry Thomas, Co-op managing director, says: "We have proved that telephone banking is what people want. Our customers know that we are as near as the nearest telephone."

Bill Gordon, managing director of Barclays Bank, says: "Our customers will now be able to conduct their day-to-day banking requirements by telephone as well as at over 2,000 high street branches. I believe it will have as much impact on advancing customer service as the launch of the UK's first ATM [automated teller machine] by Barclays and the launch of Barclaycard, the first credit card in the United Kingdom."

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■ More than one in four say they no longer have time to go shopping, or visit a bank, during the week.

■ Almost two-thirds of current account holders visit their bank branches less than twice a month.

■ In the US, more than 15 per cent of bank customers use the phone services offered.

■ There are 19.6 million residential lines in the UK.

■ About 90 per cent of UK households have a telephone.

■ BT says that the recent price cuts will knock £244 million off customers' call bills.

■ This month, the cost of a directory inquiry call for a UK telephone number was cut from 45p to 25p.

■ BT's Option 15 is for residential customers with quarterly bills of more than £40. It gives a 10 per cent discount on direct dialled call charges in return for a £4 quarterly fee.

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Insurers and surveyors should be early ports of call, says Victoria Davis

# How to buy a boat without hitting troubled waters

More than 110,000 boating enthusiasts are expected to visit the Southampton Boat Show, which opened yesterday and runs until Saturday, September 26. It is the world's largest outdoor event of its kind and last year generated sales worth £27 million. This year, it hopes to at least equal this as consumer spending starts to pick up after the recession.

Lombard Marine Finance, part of National Westminster Bank's Lombard North Central credit arm, reports a 60 per cent rise in business, particularly in the second-hand boat market. This is now feeding through into the market for new vessels, it says.

Unlike cars, sailing boats and cruisers generally hold their value quite well. According to the British Marine Industries Federation, a boat's value deteriorates in the first two years, but remains relatively stable after that.

Finance: Banks, building societies and finance houses will lend money to buy boats. You may well be required to

offer additional security, such as your house, thus putting your home at risk if you cannot keep up payments.

Lombard will lend up to 80 per cent of a boat's value. Interest is between 8 and 9 per cent (Annual Percentage Rate) depending on type of vessel, size of loan, the length of time the loan is outstanding and the client's financial status. Payments are by direct debit each month over a period of up to ten years. The minimum loan is £5,000.

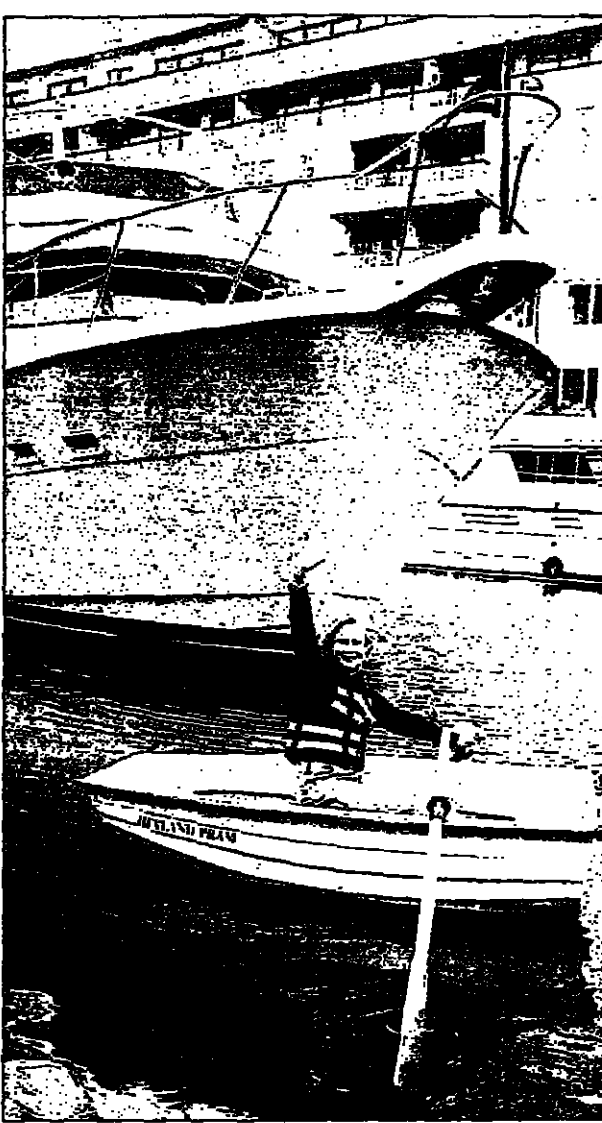
You need not have a particular boat in mind when seeking a loan, because the company will give you a Marine Mortgage Certificate, giving you cash-buyer status by earmarking funds for up to six months.

Surveyors: Just as you would use a surveyor when buying a home, it is important to minimise risk when you buy a second-hand boat by employing a marine surveyor. However, anyone can set up as a marine surveyor, so be careful. The Yacht Brokers, Designers and Surveyors Association will supply a list of surveyors on its register. Various grades of membership reflect experience and specialisation. Members are vetted and must have professional indemnity insurance.

Mooring: Mooring rates depend on location and on size of boat, according to Marina Development, owner of marinas on the South Coast. A box of 6.5 metres to 12.6 metres can cost between £145 and £336 to moor. Annual rates depend on certain factors. Mooring is costliest on the South Coast. Marina Development is on 0703 457155.

Insurance: You are not required by law to insure your boat, but it would be unwise not to do so. Most marinas accept only insured vessels. Premiums range between 1 and 4 per cent of the boat's value, depending on cruising area, mooring location and the owner's experience.

Specialist insurers include Haven Knox-Johnston Yacht Insurers (071-377 9777), Carrington International Underwriters Agency (0590 671560), Navigators General Insurance (0273 329866) and Northern Star Insurance (0452 393000).



Messing about in boats requires financial planning, too

## BRIEFINGS

Abbey Life's new five-year Guaranteed Tokyo Bond offers investors two options. The first pays the higher of 135 per cent of the growth in the Japanese Nikkei 300 index applied to 95 per cent of the original investment, or the return of the initial capital. The second pays a lower percentage (105 per cent) in exchange for locking in part of the growth during the life of the bond. The offer period closes on October 28. Minimum investment is £5,000; maximum £100,000.

Fidelity Investments will abolish front end charges on its MoneyBuilder Pep from September 26. Minimum investment is £3,000 with no withdrawal charges. Fidelity's Investorline is on 0800 414161.

The initial offer period for M&G's new Managed Growth fund closes on October 28. The Pep has no initial charge, but there is an early withdrawal fee - operating on a sliding scale from 4.5 per cent in the first year to zero at the end of the fifth year. Minimum investment is £1,000 lump sum, or £50 a month. M&G is on 071 626-4588.

The TSB is offering students a free overdraft limit of £500 and cutting the cost of agreed borrowing above that.

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## Everything in the garden is tempting for thieves

Garden theft claims are soaring as more and more people install tighter security measures in their homes. Denied access to houses, thieves are finding rich pickings in the garden.

Garden theft claims now average between £400 and £500, according to General Accident. John Munro, the company's general home manager, says: "With more people installing good quality doors, window locks and burglar alarms, thieves are turning to garages, greenhouses and garden sheds."

Lawnmowers and bicycles are frequent targets. Industry sources estimate that one in five new lawn mowers is bought to replace a stolen one. Helen Pocock, of Plymouth, says: "All our products have their own unique serial number and you should always keep a note of it. The police have even held Plymouth identity parades."

Most standard household contents insurance policies will cover you for a limited amount - about £300 - for goods left in the open. But, if you make a claim, you will have to pay the policy excess, normally about £50.

Phil Ward, of the Association of British Insurers, advises: "Always have a lock or padlock on your sheds." But some items are impossible to protect. "In one case, this summer, someone had a new lawn put down. Two nights later, thieves cut it up and took the lot away. In another case, a complete hedge was dug up and carted off."

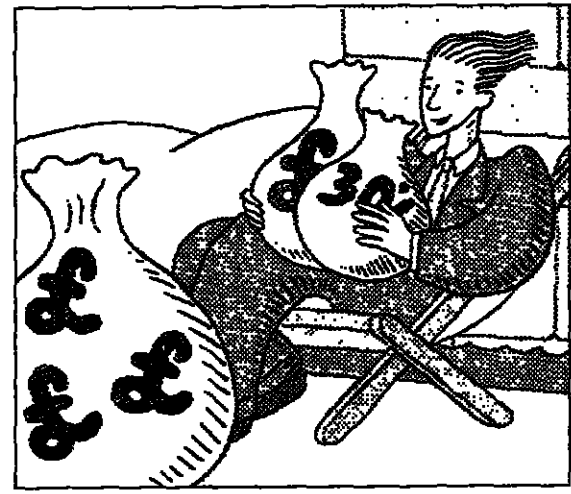
Mr Ward warns gardeners to take care when clearing up this autumn. The ABI estimates that 200,000 accidents occur in gardens every year, and recommends a few basic rules to guard against risk:

- Wear strong shoes and gloves.
- Take care when using or cleaning lawnmowers or other tools with sharp blades.
- If appropriate, wear glasses or goggles.
- Use circuit breakers to safeguard against electrocution.
- Always lift heavy items in the correct fashion, by bending at the knee.

If you suffer serious injury while gardening, a personal accident policy can pay out a lump sum. A regular income may also be payable should you become temporarily or permanently disabled.

**Lawnmowers are frequent targets, but even lawns are at risk, says Robert Miller**

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# The best yet, and getting better

This has been the best year ever for investment trusts. Regular savings and lump sum investment schemes have particularly captured investors' imaginations. The latest statistics from the Association of Investment Trust Companies show that contributions to investment trust savings schemes rose by 20 per cent in the first half of the year. The amount of regular saving increased by 41 per cent, representing nearly £38 million.

Regular savers now invest an average of £80 a month and the number of investors joining the club of investment trust enthusiasts has risen steadily in every quarter since the end of 1992.

Investment trust groups have also begun to grasp the difficult issue of how to improve their profile among a large swathe of the investing

More and more people are choosing investment trusts as their favourite way of saving, says Robert Miller

population who have still never heard of these schemes.

An innovation being adopted by a growing number of investment trust groups is to package and sell their trusts as "lifestyle" plans. These are then marketed for specific purposes such as school fee planning, pension provision or Pep mortgages.

But in striving to appeal to a wider audience, the individual trusts must make sure that people understand what they are putting their money into. It is not enough simply to push the headline branding of a trust. For example, many trusts have a long and distinguished history. But over the

years they have changed their investment strategy and their original names bear no resemblance to what they do today. Some groups, notably Murray Johnstone, have changed those names to reflect precisely what they are about. Hence you have Murray Income, Murray Ventures and Murray European. Those names tell investors what sort of trust they are investing in.

This has become even more relevant as the sector welcomes new trusts such as those that now invest in the Lloyd's of London insurance market. Soon a new breed of venture capital trusts, which will invest almost exclusively in un-

listed companies, is to be launched. These will offer special tax breaks. It is in the overriding interests of the investment trust movement to insist that these are clearly labelled high-risk.

Overall, however, the investment trust industry still has much to which it can look forward. Early next year, for instance, 3i — the former Investors in Industry — which sold off 45 per cent of its shares this summer, will launch a low-cost savings scheme. Among the success stories of this venture capital trust was the £10 million management buyout of Dartington Crystal from BTR which it backed this year. 3i is also lobbying for its savings scheme to qualify as a personal equity plan. Investors would welcome it.



Crystal clear: Eric Dancer, left, of Dartington Crystal and Russ Cummings of 3i

## THE SPLITS

### The perfect solution?

Split capital investment trusts can appear to offer a perfect solution for investors who specifically need either high income or capital growth, writes Helen Pridham. No two split trusts are precisely the same — each has a different share structure.

About 60 split trusts are now on offer. There are three main types of shares: income, capital and zero dividend preference shares. The trusts have a limited life of ten to 15 years, and each class of share has a different claim on a trust's assets, during its life and at redemption.

Income shares receive all or most of the income from the trust's investments. Some are now yielding 10 per cent or more. However, you get a fixed repayment only when the trust is wound up. Zeros provide no income but give a predetermined capital return at redemption. Capital shares do not pay income, either, but are entitled to all the trust's remaining assets once the other classes of share have received their entitlement at the end of the trust's life.

Warrants have become a common feature of investment trust launches in recent years. Typically, investors who buy in at the start have been provided with one free warrant for every five shares as a way of compensating them for having to pay more than if they had invested in an existing trust. The warrant gives the investor the option of buying more shares in the trust at a fixed price at a set future date.

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## Personal equity plans have tax advantages, but watch those extra charges

Investment trusts can be sheltered within a Pep (personal equity plan), which is a useful way to protect dividends and capital growth from tax. All your dividends and any capital growth are free from tax. But investors need to look carefully at charging structures. Unlike unit trust Peps, investment trust Peps usually involve extra charges.

But the terms are steadily improving. More managers are replacing percentage charges with flat fees, and some trusts make no extra charge at all for a Pep. This is helping to attract more business. In the past tax year, £294 million flowed into investment trusts via Peps. This was a 42 per cent rise on the previous year.

Among those that have gone the whole hog and removed all Pep charges are Finsbury Asset Management, TR Smaller Companies, Personal Assets and Govett Strategic. Ivory & Stone does not charge for monthly Pep plans but treats lump-sum investment differently.

If one of these plans meets your investment needs, you are in luck. But if you want more choice, there is the low-cost Alliance Pep, which gives access not only to the two Alliance trusts but to more than 80 other investment trusts and more than 300 company shares.

The Alliance package has no initial or annual Pep charges and only modest dealing costs of 0.15 per cent, plus £1 for its own trusts and 0.25 per cent plus £5

## How to Pep up savings

otherwise. But you have to invest a minimum of £750 a year in one of the Alliance trusts. Both are non-qualifying plans, so the maximum you can invest is £1,500 anyway. You can then top up with other trusts of your choice, including such fully qualifying trusts as Scottish Mortgage and Edinburgh Investment Trust.

You could even be better off investing in some trusts through an Alliance Pep rather than going to the other managers direct. Some management groups make an annual charge of up to 1 per cent. This means that your charges will rise progressively as your investment's value rises.

Some groups have adopted a fairer more equitable approach by introducing fixed annual fees. Fleming and Stewart Ivory, for example, charge only £25 a trust a year.

You can invest the whole of your general Pep allowance, up to £6,000 a tax year, in investment trusts. The full amount can be invested in any trust

deemed "qualifying", ie, it must be at least 50 per cent invested in ordinary shares quoted in the UK or other European Union countries. If you want to include "non-qualifying" investment trusts in a general Pep, you can invest no more than £1,500.

Paul Myners, the chairman of the Association of Investment Trust Companies, will press the Chancellor to include a series of changes to Peps in his forthcoming Budget, among them an increase in the number of investment trusts eligible for inclusion in Peps.

An anomaly that the AITC thinks it has a good chance of having removed is the ineligibility of trusts that specialise in the venture capital sector. More than any other, such trusts would seem to conform to the original intention of Peps — to encourage support for new and developing businesses in this country. Yet they are at present excluded from Peps because their investments tend to be heavily weighted in favour of unlisted companies.

The Government is expected soon to announce details of its new venture capital trusts. Pep-style tax reliefs are likely to replace the old Business Expansion Scheme. In which case it would make sense to give equal treatment to Pep investors.

HELEN PRIDHAM

# "Regrets. I've had a few."

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# A very model company

**Sara McConnell**  
reports on one  
group's efforts  
to tempt  
investors

Private investors have been known to choose Henderson Touche Remnant's City of London investment trust because they think the name implies wealth and probity. This might be true for some, but Henderson Touche Remnant, now the biggest investment trust after it was formed from the merger of Henderson Administration and Touche Remnant at the end of 1992, is under no illusion that it still has its work cut out explaining and promoting the 17 investment trusts now managed by the combined company.

Obscure names are just another barrier to savers who have never progressed further than their 90-day notice account at the building society. James de Sausmarez, HTR's investment trusts managing director, concedes: "When the trusts do not have name awareness, we have to work harder." Jargon such as "split capital trusts" and "zero dividend preference shares" is no less of a barrier.

Yet there is a lot of money locked away in building society and bank accounts that investment trust companies are keen to see entrusted to them. Their task is to convince people to take the plunge and to put some of this money into investment trusts. (The investors who changed their luck in TR's City of London trust should need no convincing — their investment would have increased by 8 per cent over one year, 86 per cent over five years and nearly 600 per cent over ten years.)

The company likes to see itself as all things to all investors, providing a range of capital growth and income trusts. The idea is that investors start with a lower-risk general trust such as *Witan* or *Bankers' Trust* then expand to a more specialist trust such as *TR Pacific* or the most recently launched trust, *HTR Japanese Smaller Companies*. Mr de Sausmarez says: "We have trusts in every sector, although we have a reputation for managing smaller companies



James de Sausmarez, left, and Christopher Clarke caught in *Rush Hour* by George Segal

successfully." It is keen to invest in companies with sound growth, capable management, a high return on assets and strong balance sheets regardless of their size. HTR says that it is committed to "active, incisive management" of the companies that it chooses.

Investors are increasingly responding to a combination of newspaper advertisements, mailshots and advice from independent financial advisers. Disgusted by interest rates they still consider low, despite the base rate rise this week, they are deserting banks and building societies in droves and turning to unit trusts and investment trusts as a comparatively easy and less risky way into equities that offer higher returns.

Only a fifth of HTR's customers have actually discussed their choice of trust with an adviser. Mr de Sausmarez believes that many advisers still do not understand investment trusts. For many years, they were reluctant to recommend them because they did not earn much commission, although more advisers became interested when investment trust companies introduced monthly

savings plans paying a small commission.

About 80 per cent of investors, Mr de Sausmarez estimates, approach the company directly as the result of a newspaper advertisement or in response to a mailshot. This means that the explanatory brochures sent out to interested investors have now to be much more clearly written and well designed than they have been. This week saw the company's latest effort, a leaflet explaining split capital investment trusts. One of the temporary gaps in the group's range is a split capital investment trust.

"We want to build awareness," says Mr de Sausmarez, "and to show that these are not as complicated as they sound. We are conscious that a lot of investors do not really understand them."

A special offer of a free dealing period for investors in HTR's *Witan* trust through the company's share plan is also running until October 14. The share plan accepts monthly contributions of a minimum of £25 and upwards and lump sum investments of a minimum of £250 upwards. Christopher Clarke, managing director of *Witan*, said the

offer to waive the initial 1 per cent transaction charge on the trust had caused "enormous interest" among investors. *Witan*, despite its unpromising name, is the fourth largest investment trust in the industry, with more than £1 billion under management for more than 20,000 shareholders. During the past ten years, investors in the 95-year-old trust would have seen their investment grow by 409 per cent. Over five years, it would have grown by 76 per cent.

As an international general trust, it has a wide spread of investments, making it suitable for those for whom building societies have overlooked their usefulness and are looking for their first equity investment.

At present, the shares in *Witan* are at a discount of 11 per cent to the trust's assets. This is good for investors coming into the trust but not ideal for those already in there because they are not getting the full value of their shares.

The only way to narrow the discount, and give existing investors the full value of their shares, is to market the trust to bring in more money. This creates demand, which reduces the discount. As Christopher Clarke says: "We need all who want to join — small or large investors."

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### Trusts can provide money for the big expenses that can catch you out

Investment trusts can prove useful when planning for a specific financial need at some point in the future. School fees and pensions are two obvious examples, writes Liz Dolan.

The conventional way of saving for school fees is a with-profits endowment policy. But this method has several disadvantages when compared with investment trusts. Endowment policies are inflexible,

## Planning for the unavoidable

carry high commission costs and have sometimes offered less attractive returns than pure equity-based products. They also depend heavily on the terminal bonus structure

and are less tax-efficient because they are liable to capital gains tax and income tax within the fund. Investment trusts, however, usually enable parents to use

their own capital gains tax allowances and, with careful planning, those of their children. A personal equity plan will shelter both capital gains and income from tax.

Duncan Shimmin, of the investment trust specialists Cliff & Partners, says: "School-fee planning is like trying to hit a moving target — you never know how fast the fees will rise." Mr Shimmin suggests assembling a portfolio of zero dividend preference shares, which can be selected to mature in different tax years, thus making maximum use of the CGT allowance.

The investment strategy for pension planning, whether applied to a small self-administered scheme or a self-invested personal scheme, will depend on age. A 30-year-old is young enough to accept a fair degree of risk, but someone closer to retirement will want more security and a steadier growth pattern.

For younger people, Mr Shimmin suggests capital shares and recommends the capital shares of M&G's *Investment Trust*.



School fees: act now

come trust as especially good value. For someone in their forties, he would consider ordinary shares but would try to buy at a discount to net asset value. Anglo Overseas Trust is the one recommended here. For those nearing retirement, he would consider zero and stepped preference shares.

Those already retired should look for sources of high and reliable income, while ensuring the security of the underlying value of the capital. Mr Shimmin suggests an old-style income share, or the equivalent. Two favourites are *Pennine Geared Income & Assets Preferred*, and *Lazard* smaller equities stepped preference shares.

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For more information please send for 'Buying Shares in Investment Trust Companies'. It's free and produced by AITC, the body that speaks for Investment Trust companies.

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\*Source: Mirostat. Increase in share price total return with net income re-invested 1 Jan '93 - 31 Dec '93. Over five years to 31 Dec '93, Scottish Eastern's share price total return rose 133%.  
†Movement in index 1 Jan '93 - 31 Dec '93.

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**FLEMINGS**  
The Investment Trust Experts



The European Parliament in Strasbourg: the Continent is an investment area increasingly favoured by fund managers

## Spoilt for choice

With so many openings, a decision can be daunting. Jill Insley guides potential investors

All investors look for income, capital growth or a combination of both. But investment trusts offer innumerable ways to pursue these simple objectives.

Investors who find the choice of more than 290 investment trusts daunting should not despair.

The Association of Investment Trust Companies has made things easier for investors by grouping trusts into 20 sectors. Pan European was added this month to the list of trusts that have at least 80 per cent in Europe, including the UK, with a minimum of 40 per cent in continental Europe.

There are trusts offering UK income, UK growth, and international growth. Other trusts invest in specific geographical regions, emerging markets and venture capital. The first part of the selection process is for investors to decide their financial needs. Bob Young, a director of Christow, the stockbroker, says investors should consider whether they need a secure income or whether they are looking to build up capital.

How much risk are they

prepared to tolerate? Are they actually willing to lose part of their capital to provide a larger income? Do investors want to stick to large familiar companies on the UK stock market or will they consider more speculative investments: for example, emerging mark-

ets or smaller companies? One of the most popular sectors for first-time investors is the international general trust. These are generally among the oldest and largest trusts in the market, holding a wide spread of investments. But Daniel Godfrey, the mar-

keting director of Fleming Investment Trust Management, says that different trusts even within the same category may have very different risk profiles.

He adds: "Unless the investor understands the products he is contemplating buying, I would always suggest that he enlists the help of an independent financial adviser."

Both Fleming and Kleinwort Benson Investment Trust Management publish "risk ratings", assessed by independent companies for their investment trusts. The trusts are rated for each investment aim - income, capital and a combination of the two. Zero dividend preference shares in Kleinwort's Jos holdings are rated "well below average risk" in terms of capital growth, while Fleming's international high-income scores "above-average risk" for high and regular income.

Mr Godfrey says: "This gives clients an understanding of what they are getting involved in."

© The Association of Investment Trust Companies (071-382 8989) publishes full details of trusts in its monthly information service.

## Where to find the best deal

The cost of buying investment trust shares varies greatly depending on where you go to make your investment. The cheapest, and often easiest way, is to buy the shares direct from an investment trust. This is done through the trust's regular savings scheme or investment plan. Share purchases can cost as little as 0.2 per cent of your investment and in some cases even less.

Or you can buy investment trust shares through a stockbroker or independent financial adviser. Advisers and brokers can give you full advice before choosing a trust, whereas investment trust savings schemes cannot. An adviser will charge extra for advice, typically, a commission equal to 3 per cent of your investment, plus the cost of dealing, which is done through a stockbroker.

A stockbroker will buy and sell investment trust shares with or without giving

advice. But if you want advice you will have to pay for it. This could be in the form of a quarterly or annual fee or in higher commission charges. Typically, stockbrokers who give advice as well as arranging a transaction will charge 1.75 per cent when buying, and the same for selling.

Some are cheaper. For example, NatWest Stockbrokers will charge 1.5 per cent on the first £5,000 invested and then 1 per cent on the next £7,500. The next £12,500 invested will attract commission of 0.5 per cent and the next £75,000 just 0.4 per cent.

Some stockbrokers, such as ShareLink and Fidelity Brokerage, specialise in low cost, execution-only dealing. Fidelity charges £25 on deals worth up to £2,500, which rises to £50 on amounts between £2,501 and £5,000. The maximum commission the company will take is £250.

ShareLink charges a minimum commission of £20. The dealing rates are based on 1.5 per cent for the first £2,500 and then for the next £2,500 the charge is 0.5 per cent. The maximum charge for investment trust share purchases up to a value of £25,000 is £45. Stockbrokers' commissions are not subject to VAT.

Each manager will also deduct an annual charge. These vary but are typically 0.5 to 0.75 per cent. Most managers deduct the annual charges from a trust's income stream rather than capital, but this is at the manager's discretion.

Stamp duty of 0.5 per cent is levied on all investment trust share purchases. On investments above £10,000, an extra £1 is deducted.

DAMIAN REECE

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# Making a small fortune

Liz Dolan meets a couple who enjoy managing their own investment trust savings schemes

The popularity of investment trust savings schemes has grown in recent years as more and more smaller investors cotton on to this simple and cost-effective means of buying shares.

Introduced ten years ago as a means of helping to fight off the strong challenge posed by unit trusts, the schemes have mushroomed. Now, 178 investment trusts, or three in every five, offer the facility, and at least eight more schemes are due to be launched soon. Since 1984, when Foreign & Colonial set up the first scheme, more than £750 million has been attracted into investment trusts by this means.

Most allow savers to invest as little as £25 or £30 a month. Some accept a monthly minimum of £20 — an amount at which even a humble share shop is likely to turn up its nose. Lump sum investment is also possible, although most people choose the regular payment route.

Maurice and Dilys Ricketts, of Lechlade, Gloucestershire, are just two investors who have reaped the benefits of this method of investment. Since opening a savings scheme in the Foreign & Colonial Investment Trust in September 1991, they have seen the share price rise from 90p to 142p. "We think that's extremely good," Mr Ricketts says. "That's something like a 60 per cent increase."

They invest either £100 or £200 a month in the plan. If they are feeling particularly flush, or bullish, they put in £300. Mr Ricketts says: "We reduce, or increase, the amount we put in from time to time, as appropriate."

The Ricketts are particularly taken by the benefits to the regular saver of what is



Dilys and Maurice Ricketts: "We have seen something like a 60 per cent rise"

known as "pound cost averaging", which allows them to even out the peaks and troughs of the share price. "When the price falls, we cheer because we can buy more for the same outlay and, when it rises, we cheer because the value of our investment is increasing," Mr Ricketts says. "Sometimes, it seems we can't

lose, although of course that's not really so." The Ricketts describe F&C as their "flagship" trust, but they also have shares in specialist trusts investing in Japan, continental Europe and emerging markets. Mr Ricketts says: "We usually buy shares in those on a spot basis, but we use a regular savings plan for

the Flemings Japan Trust." Overseas investments account for 20 per cent of their total portfolio — "There's a whole world out there; you must spread your investments." The couple are also fans of zero dividend shares. "They're a good way of using up capital gains tax allowance. For two of us, that's a total of

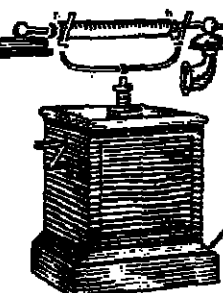
£11,600 a year," Mr Ricketts says. "We chose those maturing in different years to make maximum use of the allowance. Capital growth is often preferable to high income for a higher rate taxpayer because of the capital gains tax allowance."

Mr Ricketts is "slightly lukewarm" about Peps. "They're just about worth it for the higher rate taxpayer but not, I think, for basic rate ones," he says. "I have a fairly significant holding, but I haven't taken up my full ration. In the end, I prefer the freedom of the market to the slightly bureaucratic atmosphere of Peps."

The couple are none too keen on unit trusts, either. "We think they're too expensive," he says. "When interest rates were high, we did hold units in a cash unit trust, but not any longer."

The Ricketts make full use of their stockbroker, John Siddell & Son. "The firm looks after our shares in a nominee account, collects our dividends and handles rights, scrips and all that sort of thing. The brokers send a quarterly newsletter and we talk to them every week or fortnight. We say we like this one, they say they like that one. We're great believers in making your broker your friend." But he adds: "Investing on the stock market is not cheap. Stamp duty and commission can sometimes make you wince."

Mr Ricketts enjoys managing his own investment portfolio, "although it comes after important things like cricket and rugby football". He adds: "People sometimes ask me whether I play the stock market. I say, no, I invest in it. We enjoy it, but we take it seriously. We don't go in for saloon-bar tips."



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Quoting reference Witan-17

## The easy way into investment trusts

INVESTMENT trust savings schemes, whether of the regular or occasional lump sum variety, offer investors an ideal introduction to investment trusts, writes Liz Dolan. Savings plans are now available from about 180 investment trusts managed by 43 companies. The largest are Fleming and Henderson Touche Remnant, which each manage 17 trusts. Foreign & Colonial and Gartmore, with 11 each, offer the next greatest selection.

Three management companies will allow investors to save as little as £20 a month. Gartmore & Gartmore Scotland, Glasgow Investment Managers and Martin Currie between them manage 14 trusts linked to savings plans. Others — including Abrust, Electra, F&C, Framlington, John Covent, Henderson TR, Ivory & Sime and Kleinwort Benson — accept £25 a month. None requires investors to pay more than £50 a month, according to the specialist magazine *Investment Trusts*.

Some charge for buying and selling shares; others make no charge, except for stamp duty.



Patrick Gifford: keep it simple

The latter include Dunedin, Finsbury Asset Management, GT, Ivory & Sime (regular savings only), Pantheon Ventures, Personal Assets Trust (regular savings) and Thornton. Buying shares through an investment trust savings scheme will usually incur initial costs of between 0.2 and 0.5 per cent, although some will charge up to 1 per cent. Similar costs will be incurred on selling the shares and some trusts will also charge a han-

dling fee, often £10, for sales. Regular savings scheme charges can be kept under control because they do not carry out instant deals. Most scheme managers pool the money and then execute all the orders once a week or sometimes even monthly.

Investors who invest larger sums, usually at least £1,000, can expect a quicker response. Some groups such as Fleming, Schroder, Invesco and Ivory & Sime, deal on a daily basis. Patrick Gifford, Fleming's trusts' chairman, says: "We try to make dealing in our trusts simple and we plan to offer new services."

Although most investors still choose regular monthly payments, lump sum investments are becoming popular. The initial minimum lump sum required usually ranges between £250 and £500, although Glasgow Investment Managers will accept even £200. Others demand at least £1,000 and, in the case of Stewart Ivory, £2,000.

● The autumn issue of *Investment Trusts* (£3 from bookstalls) includes a survey of available investment trusts savings schemes.

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\*Source: All figures — Microplot, offer to bid, net income reinvested (gross income in the case of Prolific UK Equity Income Fund) to 1st August, 1994. Over 5 years, Prolific High Income Unit Trust (launched 2.9.1974) is 29th out of 94 and Prolific Extra Income Unit Trust (launched 26.10.1984) is 19th out of 30. Prolific UK Equity Income Fund was launched on 16.12.1991. Please remember that the value of shares and the income from them can go down as well as up and investors may not get back the full amount invested. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to the future. Information on PEPs is based upon current tax legislation and may change. The benefits of a PEP depend upon the individual circumstances of investors. Investment in warrants involves a high degree of gearing so that a relatively small movement in the price of shares may result in a disproportionately large movement, unfavourable as well as favourable, in the price of warrants. The information contained herein is neither a prospectus, nor an offer of, nor an invitation to apply for, shares or warrants. Applications for shares in Prolific Income PLC may be made only on the basis of the Listing Particulars relating to the Company, which it is expected will be published on or around 22 September 1994.

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THE TIMES SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 17 1994

مكتبة من الأصل







1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 2679, 2680, 26



# Munwar earns 25-1 quote for Derby

By RICHARD EVANS  
RACING CORRESPONDENT

MUNWAR'S victory in the Haynes, Hanson and Clark Stakes at Newbury yesterday ended the Peter Walwyn-trained colt's long wait for a roll call of honour, matched only by the quality of the sponsor's vintage wines.

Shergar, Rainbow Quest, Unfuwain, and King's Theatre are among the distinguished list to have won the mile race for two-year-olds, but only time will tell if the Hamdan Al-Maktoum-owned son of

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: MAGIC PEARL (3.05 Ayr)  
Next best: Gay Gallanta (2.00 Newbury)

Kalaglow can attain similar grand cru status.

"Nobody is saying he is that yet, but Peter has always liked the horse and he will improve," Angus Gold, the owner's racing manager, said.

Walwyn, thrilled at winning a race with such a proven pedigree, quickly put the victory into context. "I don't think the race was up to the standard of some years but I knew it was the right race for him."

The Lambourn handler, who enjoyed much success with Munwar's full brother, Hatzel, added: "It's a lovely horse but I was worried about the ground and there was a question over whether to run him. I knew he did not like soft ground and he got a bit tired



Munwar and Richard Hills gain an emphatic victory in the Haynes, Hanson and Clark Conditions Stakes at Newbury. Photograph: Julian Herbert

in the last furlong. He's a big, weak horse but he's such a wonderful mover and Richard Hills rode him beautifully by letting him stride out."

Always travelling comfortably close to the pace, Munwar strode out majestically inside the final furlong and a half, leaving Stiffelio and Camling to scramble for the places, occupied down the years by the likes of White

Muzzle and Shahrastani.

The time of the race, nearly eight seconds slower than standard, was nothing special even allowing for the soft ground, but William Hill saw enough to offer a miserly 25-1 for next year's Derby.

Evening performance is from the Lechsgang school of sprinting, winning her races by burning off the opposition with early speed and Henry

Candy hinted his improving filly could be tackling some of the better sprint races next season after seeing her make all to win the Tony Stratton Smith Memorial Stakes.

She had not raced since bettering the Lingfield five-furlong record more than seven weeks ago and Candy was far from certain how she would cope with the softer going. "She has had a little bit

of an infection and she just needed that, Billy Newman said she exploded in the last half furlong.

"I might put her to bed for this year but she stays in training and may win something a bit better next year given the way she is going."

The fitness of the three-raced Muzetta gave Clive Brittain's filly a winning advantage over some inexperienced

rivals in the Robertson Taylor Fillies Stakes and she will now tackle the best of her sex in the Fillies Mile at Ascot.

Lab Test completed a treble in the Victor Chandler Nursery, despite being raised to his first win. His trainer, Colin Williams said: "I had a few words with the handicapper before the race, but it seems he may have been right."

## Vintage Crop to gain repeat triumph in Irish St Leger

FROM OUR IRISH RACING CORRESPONDENT IN DUBLIN

VINTAGE Crop, the historic winner of last year's Melbourne Cup, can repel the strong British challenge and win his second successive Smurfit Irish St Leger at the Curragh today en route to another tilt at the Australian showpiece.

Bob's Return and My Patriarch, also Melbourne Cup entries, join Kithanga to make up the British team, but Vintage Crop is following a well-trodden path today and will be at his peak for his attempt to win the race sponsored by his owner, Michael Smurfit.

Vintage Crop is a horse who has always peaked in the autumn, a fact confirmed by his efforts last year. Although beaten by Arcadian Heights in the Ascot Gold Cup this summer, subsequent efforts by Geoff Wragge's reformed character have put that performance in a better light.

However, when later beaten by Witsess Box at the Curragh, many felt the exertions of Vintage Crop's Australian trip had caught up with him.

Dermot Weld vehemently disagreed and was proved right when Vintage Crop costily beat George Augustus in a specially formulated race over today's course and distance last month.

Following last year's pattern, the horse is coming right now and Weld's faith should be totally vindicated today.

In contrast, last year's Doncaster St Leger winner, Bob's Return, has had a busy and varied season. The Prix Ganay and the Hardwicke Stakes preceded a fine second to Ezzoud in the Eclipse.

His front-running style was unsuccessful in the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes at Ascot and when waiting tactics were

introduced for the Juddmonte International, he did not get within striking distance of Ezzoud.

Bob's Return is top class and will appreciate a return to today's distance but his busy season may count against him when faced with a peak-form Vintage Crop.

My Patriarch was fourth in the Doncaster Cup last week and looks well held on form. Kithanga also ran at Doncaster, in the May Hill Stakes, but shaped like returning to her best form when a staying-on second to Colgate. The Luca Cumani-trained filly seems to be coming to her best at the right time.

Gothic Dream, still looking for a victory this season, was a good third in the Irish Oaks behind Botas and was a close-up fifth behind Sierra Madre in the Prix Vermeille last Sunday.

But, just like last season, Vintage Crop can be the only home-trained horse to land an Irish classic.

There is no British runner in the group one National Stakes on the same card and the Jim Bolger-trained Desert Style, third to Eva Luna in the Heinz 57, can fulfil his trainer's belief that he is top class and will win this afternoon.

Ultima Imperator (John Dunlop) and Polish Langer (Ben Hounbary) can dominate the listed Boland Stakes with the latter, a course winner as a two-year-old, getting the vote.

### CORRAGH LINE-UP

GOING: YIELDING

#### 3.45 JEFFERSON SMURFIT MEMORIAL IRISH ST Leger (Group 1, £27,000, 1m 6f) (8 runners)

- 1 (6) 4-22-20 Bob's Return 32 (J. Bolger) (M. Topham) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
2 (7) 21-01-14 MY PATRIARCH 9 (J. Bolger) (P. Walsby) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
3 (8) 25-21-23 PORTMAN GALLERY 56 (J. Bolger) (M. Topham) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
4 (9) 11-12-21 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
5 (10) 1-5-22-22 CLIMBEN GALE 7 (M. Topham) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
6 (11) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
7 (12) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
8 (13) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59

#### 5.00 NATIONAL STAKES (Group 1, £27,000, 1m 6f) (8 runners)

- 1 (6) 4-22-20 Bob's Return 32 (J. Bolger) (M. Topham) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
2 (7) 21-01-14 MY PATRIARCH 9 (J. Bolger) (P. Walsby) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
3 (8) 25-21-23 PORTMAN GALLERY 56 (J. Bolger) (M. Topham) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
4 (9) 11-12-21 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
5 (10) 1-5-22-22 CLIMBEN GALE 7 (M. Topham) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
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7 (12) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
8 (13) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59

#### 5.00 NATIONAL STAKES (Group 1, £27,000, 1m 6f) (8 runners)

- 1 (6) 4-22-20 Bob's Return 32 (J. Bolger) (M. Topham) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
2 (7) 21-01-14 MY PATRIARCH 9 (J. Bolger) (P. Walsby) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
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### WOLVERHAMPTON

THUNDERER

7.00 Shergar. 7.30 Star Chatter. 8.00 Danegold. 8.30 Dancing Theatre. 9.00 L'Etat C'Est Mol. 9.30 Ashover.

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE

#### 7.00 TANZANIA MAIDEN HANDICAP (3,100, 7f) (12 runners)

- 1 (6) 4-22-20 Bob's Return 32 (J. Bolger) (M. Topham) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
2 (7) 21-01-14 MY PATRIARCH 9 (J. Bolger) (P. Walsby) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
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7 (12) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
8 (13) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59

#### 7.30 CONGO SELLING STAKES (2-Y-O, £2,500, 7f) (12)

- 1 (6) 4-22-20 Bob's Return 32 (J. Bolger) (M. Topham) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
2 (7) 21-01-14 MY PATRIARCH 9 (J. Bolger) (P. Walsby) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
3 (8) 25-21-23 PORTMAN GALLERY 56 (J. Bolger) (M. Topham) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
4 (9) 11-12-21 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
5 (10) 1-5-22-22 CLIMBEN GALE 7 (M. Topham) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
6 (11) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
7 (12) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
8 (13) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59

#### 8.00 EBF MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O, £3,300, 1m 100yds) (7)

- 1 (6) 4-22-20 Bob's Return 32 (J. Bolger) (M. Topham) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
2 (7) 21-01-14 MY PATRIARCH 9 (J. Bolger) (P. Walsby) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
3 (8) 25-21-23 PORTMAN GALLERY 56 (J. Bolger) (M. Topham) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
4 (9) 11-12-21 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
5 (10) 1-5-22-22 CLIMBEN GALE 7 (M. Topham) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
6 (11) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
7 (12) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59

#### 8.30 MOZAMBIQUE LIMITED STAKES (2,700, 1m 6f 160yds) (11)

- 1 (6) 4-22-20 Bob's Return 32 (J. Bolger) (M. Topham) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
2 (7) 21-01-14 MY PATRIARCH 9 (J. Bolger) (P. Walsby) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
3 (8) 25-21-23 PORTMAN GALLERY 56 (J. Bolger) (M. Topham) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
4 (9) 11-12-21 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
5 (10) 1-5-22-22 CLIMBEN GALE 7 (M. Topham) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
6 (11) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
7 (12) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
8 (13) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59

#### 9.00 IVORY COAST HANDICAP (3,200, 6f) (13)

- 1 (6) 4-22-20 Bob's Return 32 (J. Bolger) (M. Topham) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
2 (7) 21-01-14 MY PATRIARCH 9 (J. Bolger) (P. Walsby) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
3 (8) 25-21-23 PORTMAN GALLERY 56 (J. Bolger) (M. Topham) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
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6 (11) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
7 (12) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
8 (13) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59

#### 9.30 MOROCCO HANDICAP (3,000, 1m 4f) (12)

- 1 (6) 4-22-20 Bob's Return 32 (J. Bolger) (M. Topham) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
2 (7) 21-01-14 MY PATRIARCH 9 (J. Bolger) (P. Walsby) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
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4 (9) 11-12-21 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
5 (10) 1-5-22-22 CLIMBEN GALE 7 (M. Topham) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
6 (11) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
7 (12) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
8 (13) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59

#### 9.30 MOROCCO HANDICAP (3,000, 1m 4f) (12)

- 1 (6) 4-22-20 Bob's Return 32 (J. Bolger) (M. Topham) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
2 (7) 21-01-14 MY PATRIARCH 9 (J. Bolger) (P. Walsby) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
3 (8) 25-21-23 PORTMAN GALLERY 56 (J. Bolger) (M. Topham) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
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8 (13) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59

### CATTERICK

THUNDERER

2.20 Stolen Melody. 2.50 Rose Of Glenn. 3.20 So Saucy. 3.50 Nissens. 4.25 Arizona. 4.55 Reverend. Thickness. 5.25 Bessied View.

GOING: GOOD DRAW: 6F-7F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

#### 2.20 EBF SANDHURST MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O, £4,000, 5f 120yds) (13 runners)

- 1 (6) 4-22-20 Bob's Return 32 (J. Bolger) (M. Topham) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
2 (7) 21-01-14 MY PATRIARCH 9 (J. Bolger) (P. Walsby) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
3 (8) 25-21-23 PORTMAN GALLERY 56 (J. Bolger) (M. Topham) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
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7 (12) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
8 (13) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59

#### 2.50 DARTMOUTH SELLING STAKES (3-Y-O, £2,685, 1m 5f 170yds) (9)

- 1 (6) 4-22-20 Bob's Return 32 (J. Bolger) (M. Topham) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
2 (7) 21-01-14 MY PATRIARCH 9 (J. Bolger) (P. Walsby) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
3 (8) 25-21-23 PORTMAN GALLERY 56 (J. Bolger) (M. Topham) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
4 (9) 11-12-21 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
5 (10) 1-5-22-22 CLIMBEN GALE 7 (M. Topham) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
6 (11) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
7 (12) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
8 (13) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59

#### 3.20 SKYRAM HANDICAP (3,522, 1m 7f 170yds) (20)

- 1 (6) 4-22-20 Bob's Return 32 (J. Bolger) (M. Topham) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
2 (7) 21-01-14 MY PATRIARCH 9 (J. Bolger) (P. Walsby) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
3 (8) 25-21-23 PORTMAN GALLERY 56 (J. Bolger) (M. Topham) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
4 (9) 11-12-21 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
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6 (11) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
7 (12) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
8 (13) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59

#### 3.50 CONSTANT SECURITY SERVICES LTD HANDICAP (3,045, 1m 3f 214yds) (14)

- 1 (6) 4-22-20 Bob's Return 32 (J. Bolger) (M. Topham) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
2 (7) 21-01-14 MY PATRIARCH 9 (J. Bolger) (P. Walsby) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
3 (8) 25-21-23 PORTMAN GALLERY 56 (J. Bolger) (M. Topham) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
4 (9) 11-12-21 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
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7 (12) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
8 (13) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59

#### 4.25 JEFF BARLICK SKYRACK EXPRESS FILLIES HANDICAP (3,340, 7f) (18)

- 1 (6) 4-22-20 Bob's Return 32 (J. Bolger) (M. Topham) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
2 (7) 21-01-14 MY PATRIARCH 9 (J. Bolger) (P. Walsby) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
3 (8) 25-21-23 PORTMAN GALLERY 56 (J. Bolger) (M. Topham) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
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7 (12) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59  
8 (13) 11-14-22 VINTAGE CROP 25 (M. Smurfit) (J. Bolger) 4-9-4... M. Topham 59

#### 4.55 JANICE AND MATTHEW'S WEDDING DAY MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O, £3,553, 7f) (12)

- 1 (6) 4-22-20 Bob's Return 32 (J. Bolger) (M. Topham) 4-9-4... P. Robinson 59  
2 (7) 21-01-14 MY PATRIARCH 9







early lead

## French skipper believes he can take ten days off BOC Challenge best

# Auguin sets sail with designs on record

FROM BARRY PICKTHALL  
IN CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

SCOTA Calverton, the 60-foot yacht skippered by Christophe Auguin, is expected to lead the 19-strong fleet away when the BOC Challenge round-the-world solo yacht race starts here at noon today. Auguin, the French winner of the previous Challenge, expects to reach Cape Town, the first port of call, by mid-October and hopes to knock ten days off the record of 120 days by the time the fleet returns next April.

The skippers have been handed a four-day advantage by a change of start venue from Newport, Rhode Island, where the three previous BOC races began. This is not more than 1,000 miles off the established course, but gives the sailors a trickier entrance across the Gulf stream out into the Atlantic because of the predominantly light winds that prevail along this part of the east coast.

Auguin has one of three new-generation "flying saucer" Class 1 60-foot entries: radical lightweight boats carrying a cloud of sail that rely on their extreme beam and movable ballast for stability. Of the eight other Class 1 entries — which include two with British skippers, Mark Gatehouse and Josh Hall — the Frenchman views David Scully, the American with his 60-foot Roger Martin-designed Coyote, and Isabelle Antissier's rival French boat, *Ecuireuil Poitou-Charentes 2*, as his most likely competitors.

Unlike most boats in the fleet, Antissier's 60-footer relies on a novel pendulum keel that can be swung laterally 20° either side of the yacht's centre line to improve stability. The concept has not been without its teething troubles, though. When Antissier set out last December to attack the New

York to San Francisco record, the yacht's bulb keel locked up on one side, but after modifications, Antissier went on to break the previous record by more than eight days.

Scully's boat has also had a chequered career. Two years ago, his fellow American, Mike Plant, died when the yacht's bulb keel broke off in mid-Atlantic on the way to the start of the Vendée Globe non-stop round-the-world race. The boat was eventually salvaged off Ireland and Scully, who won the Teesside two-man round-Britain race last year, has spent the past six months rebuilding her.

Gatehouse and Hall also expect to enjoy a close race. Both have eight-year-old boats: Gatehouse's *Queen Anne's Battery* is Philippe Jeantou's former 1986-87 BOC race winner, *Credit Agricole*, while Hall is sailing *Gartmore Investment Managers*, formerly *Ecuireuil d'Aquitaine*, which Throuan Lamazou sailed to victory in the first Vendée Globe solo race.

Three more "saucer" shaped boats stand out in Class 2, for yachts up to 50 feet overall. The most radical is Giovanni Soldini's Italian entry, *Kodak*, which is a development of Yves Dupasquier's all-conquering entry, *Servant IV*, which won each leg of the last BOC race. The new Jean Berret-designed *Coyote*, and Isabelle Antissier's rival French boat, *Ecuireuil Poitou-Charentes 2*, as his most likely competitors.

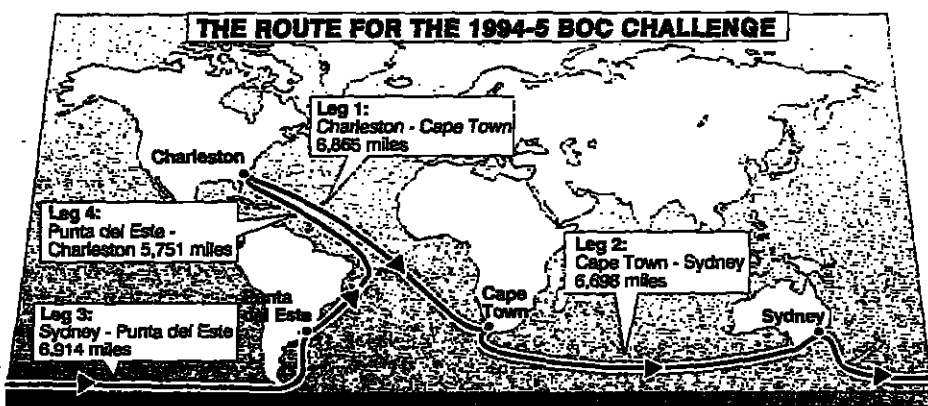
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Hall, skipper of a yacht that has previously won the race, expects a close battle with his fellow Briton, Gatehouse

*True Blue*, while Alan Neuberger is skippering a similar lightweight flyer, *Newcastle Australia*. Adams expects to complete the race within 130 days, but if any yachts suffer damage, he expects Nigel Rowe, of Britain, with his transatlantic race winner, *Sky Catcher*, to be pushing hard.

When the fleet sets out today, the first of four legs will take it to the Cape of Good Hope. It then heads to Sydney and around Cape Horn to Punta del Este, Uruguay.



## Redgrave and Pinsent lead challenge for gold

FROM MIKE ROSEWELL  
IN INDIANAPOLIS

GERMANY will spearhead the challenge for medals at the world rowing championships here this weekend. Of 21 boats they entered, 19 are still in contention. Australia follow with 12, then come Italy (11), the United States (ten) and France (nine). Britain, in the company of Denmark and Holland, have eight, three fewer than last year, when four gold medals placed Britain second in the world medals table.

Turning finals appearances into medals is a big jump but Britain have three realistic opportunities of taking gold. Steve Redgrave and Matthew Pinsent, unbeaten in their coxless pair in top competition since 1990, appear invincible.

The lightweight men's eight, winners in Lausanne and the fastest crew of their class in Indianapolis this week, will be determined to avoid the mistakes made by their predecessors in Prague last year. They know the capabilities of Denmark, who finished third in Lausanne, and they will have noted that Italy and Holland have eliminated the Ger-

mans, who were a close second to the British in Switzerland. Likewise, the Americans, who like Britain, qualified directly for the final, cannot be overlooked.

Peter Haining, the reigning world lightweight sculls champion, and Britain's third clear gold-medal candidate, said after his semi-final win on Thursday: "I did not like it because it was not fair." Indeed, as the wind blew across the course, high-number lanes seemed to be the most inviting, particularly off the start. It was tough, and Haining himself had a worrying lurch at 1,000

metres: "My rigger was under the water. Watermanship counts in those sort of conditions," he observed. Niall O'Toole, of Ireland, on form Haining's main rival for a gold medal, struggled to third on Thursday and will row in lane one or six.

An overdue medal could also materialise for Miriam Batten and Jo Turley in their coxless pair. Fifth in the Olympics and fourth in the 1993 world championships, they have drawn this year. The French world champions, Gosse and Cortin, remain unbeaten and favoured. The introduction of Elisabetha Lipa, the

Olympic sculls champion, into the Romanian pair has not aided the British cause.

The Searle brothers, joined by Rupert Obholzer and Tim Foster in the coxless four, also confront French world champions in their final, but they have a strong chance of a medal. Britain's lightweight double, Andy Sinton and Stuart Whitelaw, have made themselves marginal medal prospects this week and are drawn today next to the favourites, Italy, with the remarkable Francesco Esposito, 39, going for his eleventh gold.

CRICKET: A second successive day of rain forced organisers to call off the one-day international between India and Pakistan in the four-nation tournament in Sri Lanka yesterday. India, by virtue of a better series record, will meet Sri Lanka in the final today. Organisers have moved the venue from the waterlogged R. Premadasa Stadium to the Sinhalese Sports Club grounds. If rain prevents a game of at least 25 overs a side, India and Sri Lanka will be declared joint winners. Organisers said the series could not be extended because they were unable to pay the high fees India were demanding to stay on.

THORNBURN slips up  
SNOOKER: Cliff Thorburn, the former world champion, suffered an unexpected defeat in the final qualifying round of the Royal Liver Assurance United Kingdom championship at Blackpool yesterday. The veteran Canadian went down 5-3 to Joe Perry, from Huntingdon, the world No 265, after a marathon match that lasted nearly four hours. Perry will now play Joe Swail, of Belfast, in the first round proper at the Preston Guildhall in November. Fergal O'Brien, from Dublin, recovered from three frames down to beat Steve Judd, of Nottingham, 5-3.

## Tanner's title is safe

CYCLING: John Tanner, from Sheffield, the leader of the season-long Premier Calendar competition, will begin the final event of the series tomorrow — the 92-mile tour of the Peak and Buxton — knowing that he cannot be beaten for the title. The event, which dates from 1942, is Britain's oldest road race. "It's over a hard course with climbs of Snake Pass and Winnats Pass, where the gradient is a maximum of one-in-four," he said. Simeon Hempsall, Tanner's colleague in the Choice Accountancy team, returns today from France, where he rode in the Tour de l'Avenir, to take part.

## Muggeridge withdraws

BADMINTON: The England No 1, Joanne Muggeridge, a member of England's Commonwealth Games gold medal-winning squad, was forced to miss the opening event of the Friends Provident British Grand Slam in Belfast yesterday after being struck in the eye by a shuttlecock in practice. The England No 2, Peter Knowles, said to be exhausted, also withdrew. Darren Hall, from Essex, the former European champion, who is playing his first tournament for three months after a back injury, reached the last eight with a 15-11, 15-6 win over Stephen Bish, of Durham.

COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

TODAY											
FOOTBALL											
Kick-off 3.0 unless stated											
Pools coupon numbers in brackets											
FA Cuping Premiership											
1) Coventry v Leeds											
2) Crystal Palace v Wimbledon											
3) Everton v QPR											
4) Luton v Tottenham											
5) Manchester Utd v Liverpool											
6) Sheffield Wed v Man City											
7) Southampton v Nottm Forest											
8) West Ham v Aston Villa											
Goal to be decided											
Newcastle	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts				
10) Bolton v Portsmouth	5	2	0	3	10	9	15				
11) Charlton v Swindon	4	2	1	1	11	10	13				
12) Derby v Oldham	3	2	2	0	11	10	10				
13) Port Vale v Middlesbrough	1	1	1	3	10	9	10				
14) Reading v Sheffield Utd	1	1	1	3	10	9	10				
15) Southampton v Bristol City	1	1	1	3	10	9	10				
16) Sunderland v Barnsley	1	1	1	3	10	9	10				
17) Telford v Millwall	1	1	1	3	10	9	10				
18) Walsley v Luton (12.30)	1	1	1	3	10	9	10				
19) West Brom v Charlton	1	1	1	3	10	9	10				
Endeavour Insurance League											
First division											
1) Bolton v Portsmouth											
2) Burnley v Walsley											
3) Charlton v Swindon											
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Endeavour Insurance League											



Saturday portrait: Andy Cole, by Peter Ball

## Goalscorer advancing the cause of forward thinking on Tyneside

Tuesday night in Antwerp was an astonishing one all round: but perhaps the greatest surprise was that, on a night when Newcastle United scored five goals in the UEFA Cup on their return to European competition, Andy Cole did not find the target. Normal service may be resumed tomorrow at Highbury, where Cole has more reason for wanting to succeed than ever.

A Nottingham boy who played for Forest's juniors, Cole, 22, began his professional career at Highbury. His ready scoring in the reserves did not convince George Graham, the demanding Arsenal manager, that the player would make the grade with the leading London club.

It is a decision which threatens to return to haunt Graham. While Newcastle sit on top of the FA Carling Premiership, scoring goals with abandon, their football a joy to behold, Arsenal, who were expected to be Manchester United's main challengers, are searching desperately for goals.

There appeared to be some justification for Graham's decision to let Cole go. With Ian Wright, another natural goalscorer, ahead of him, Graham considered that the more powerful talents of Kevin Campbell and Alan Smith, and the dribbling skills of Paul Merson, made Cole surplus to requirements.

But whispers suggested that there was more to it than that. At that stage Cole might not have lived up to the work ethic of a hard taskmaster and some questioned his temperament, holding that Bristol City had taken a gamble in paying £500,000 for him in 1992.

The club had, however, seen enough, as he scored eight goals in 12 games while on loan, and if it was a gamble, the dividends were almost instantaneous. "George Graham thinks I don't work hard enough," Cole confided when he left Highbury. "I intend to prove him wrong."

Within eight months Cole had more than trebled his value. Newcastle paid £1.75 million, then a club record, to provide the goals for Newcastle's final push towards the first division title in 1993. Cole

obliged with 12 goals in 12 games. In the process he began his elevation to cult status on Tyneside. Newcastle supporters have long had a special, almost mystical, relationship with the wearer of the No 9 shirt, Hughie Gallacher, Jackie Milburn and Malcolm Macdonald all enjoying the admiration, even worship, of the most enthusiastic supporters in the country.

Yet Cole is different. Newcastle centre forwards have not necessarily been in the traditional, big, bustling English mould of Lofthouse — Gallacher was a small Scot and even Milburn, for all the power of his shooting, was no giant — but all had a telling physical presence.

Cole, by contrast, is slighter than the St Ilin and Ilist he is

**'If everyone gives him a chance, he could be the answer to our dreams in this country'**

officially credited with would suggest, and does much of his work by speed and stealth, although he is a much stronger player than his appearance or the quiet, almost shy character off the field would suggest. His scoring has matched them all, his 41 goals last season setting a new club record.

The most obvious difference between Cole and his celebrated goalscoring predecessors, however, is that he is black. Geordies, like Liverpudlians, have never been noted for liberal attitudes on race, but Cole has conquered the prejudice. He is, simply, the supporters' hero.

Perhaps the most telling demonstration of his popularity came during his one unhappy moment at the club, when he was refused permission to stay in London before a cup tie at Wimbledon. Coming from a big family — he has a brother and six sisters — Cole perhaps felt isolated in the

North-East, and he told Keegan he was homesick for his friends a few hours before the match, provoking a furious outburst from the manager, who told him he did not want him to play. Cole left the team hotel and there were those ready to say "I told you so".

But the player returned to Newcastle 24 hours later and made his peace with Keegan. The following day, a mass of supporters spontaneously turned up at the Durham University training ground to assure him that he was wanted. He has now bought a house on Tyneside and seems settled and more relaxed than in his early days at the club.

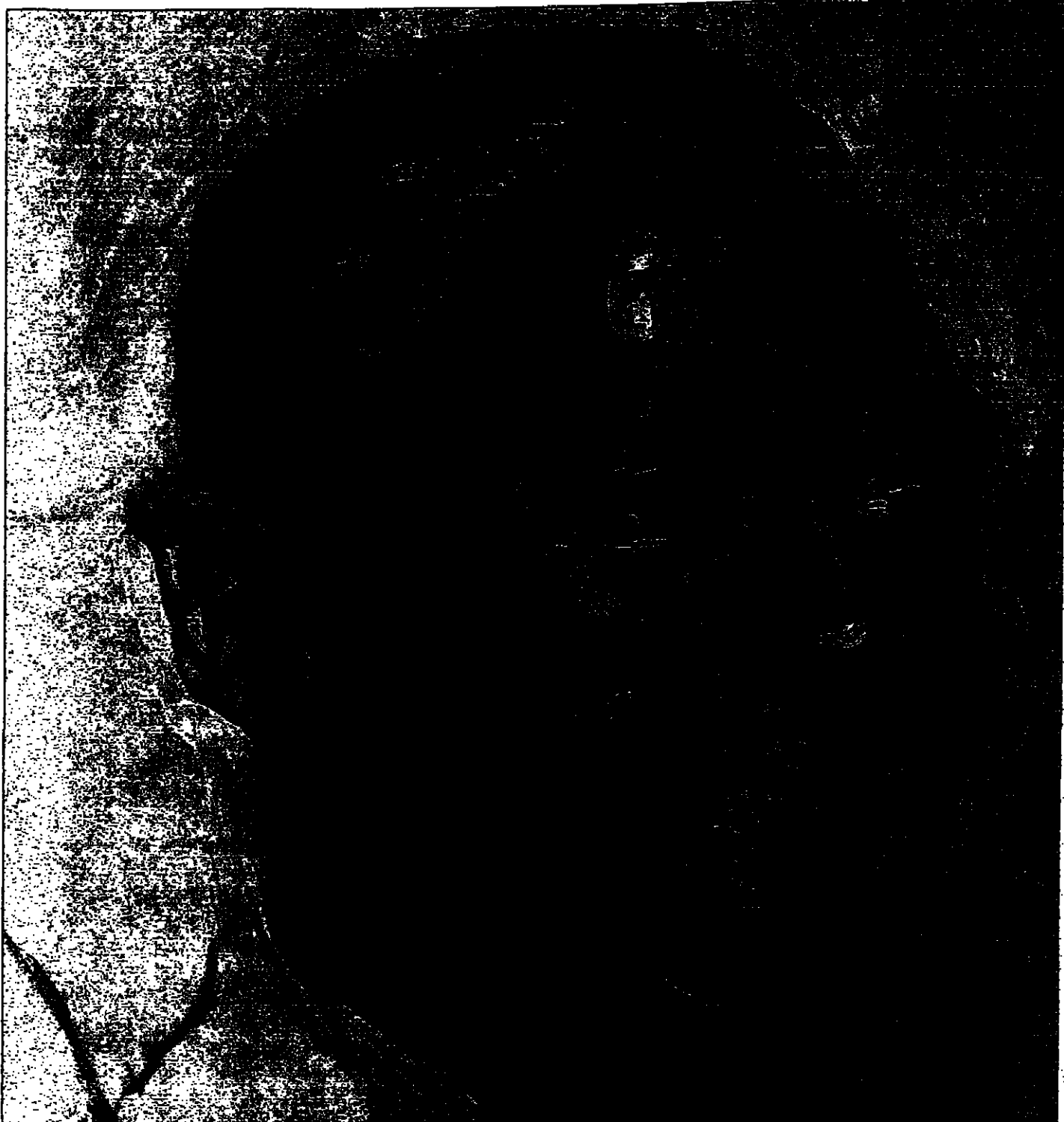
But if the supporters worship him, professional views are more divided. Once when enviously discussing the spread of outstanding strikers available to England, Jack Charlton, the Ireland manager, singled out Cole as the player he would most like to discover had an Irish grandmother.

For someone of Charlton's football convictions, it seemed an unlikely preference. The more aggressive, hard-running Shearer, widely regarded as the outstanding forward in England for many years, seemed more suited to Charlton's style. "No," Charlton said when that was suggested. "The one I really fancy is Cole. He has these little moves, does these little things which really pick him out."

By contrast, Malcolm Allison, controversial as ever, was fiercely critical of the player last season. As Cole approached his record for Newcastle, Allison wrote off the player in a Sunday tabloid under the headline "Cracker Cole wouldn't get into my pub side", criticising his contribution to the team effort.

"He's the laziest player I've seen in some time," Allison said after watching him against Southampton. "He will never make an international because he won't work for the team. He's a great individual, but he wouldn't get in the very top sides."

To be fair to Allison, the Southampton game was the one preceding the cup tie at Wimbledon, and Cole's performance that day may



have reflected his unhappiness, but there has been no retraction. Allison is the most outspoken of a southern faction of dissidents, which may include the England manager.

Terry Venables has kept his own counsel publicly, but it appears that he is closer to his former mentor and to Graham, another close friend, than to Charlton or Keegan. So far he has not included Cole in his England squads, despite the player's consistent

goalscoring. Last season Cole did not even make the B team against Northern Ireland, Sutton and Holdsworth getting in ahead of him. "I am not throwing around caps like confetti," the England manager said, an attitude which apparently applies to Cole but not to the more workaday talents of Venison, Richardson or Bould.

Keegan, needless to say, disagrees with the player's critics. "If you watch a tape of a game, of five or six chances he has, he's created

two or three out of absolutely nothing," the Newcastle manager said. "He isn't like any other player I've seen. For me, he is the country's most exciting player."

Keegan recognised the frustrations of Cole's game when he bought him from Bristol City, but he is unstinting in his defence of his young forward. "People who saw him when he left Arsenal will see a totally different player now," Keegan said. "He is a much more complete all-round performer than

most players. He has seen nothing to change his view expressed last season, when he said: 'If everyone gives him a chance, he could be the answer to our dreams in this country. He is certainly the answer to ours at Newcastle.'"

If his goals take Newcastle to their first championship since 1977, the dream will become reality and even the doubters will be silenced.

## European adventure helps Ince to gain in stature

Nothing serves as a more poignant reminder of the risks involved in pursuing the great glory of European football than the clock above the main entrance to Old Trafford. It is set in February 1958, the date of the Munich air crash.

In wind and rain on Wednesday night, that timepiece seemed to take on an almost eerily disturbing aspect when one heard that the charter plane carrying IFK Gothenburg home to Sweden had developed worrying vibrations. The captain turned back over the North Sea and requested emergency landing procedures at Manchester.

In the event, he brought his aircraft safely down and the problem was located in stabilising equipment. But the team and officials had to spend an extra night in Manchester before returning home to lick the wounds of the 4-2 defeat Manchester United had handed them in the Champions' League.

In those worrying moments after the radio message came through, we thought of the risk, of the loss of the Busby Babes, and reflected on the irony that UEFA rules had just

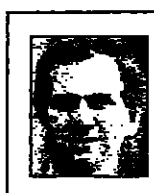
obliged Alex Ferguson to begin a fresh chapter of youth at Old Trafford, with the competent debut of Nicky Butt, 19.

But there are risks and risks. The most calculated gamble of the night concerned the left knee of Paul Ince. He had damaged it three days earlier at Leeds and has struggled all season with tendinitis in the same joint.

"I picked him, I knew he would play, but I didn't want to ask," Ferguson reflected. And in that reflection he acknowledged the player's growing presence and leadership. Indeed, Ince has picked up the mantle of Bryan Robson as marauder in chief of the midfield; more than that on Wednesday, he assumed the influence of Eric Cantona, determining the shape and pattern of play.

This summer we had heard souring stories that £7,000 a week was not enough for Ince, that he was insisting on parity with Cantona. Martin Edwards, the United chairman, had stated: "We have made him the biggest offer we can. I cannot break our wage structure for one player."

But on Wednesday, the same



**ROB HUGHES**  
Weekend View

chairman spelt out the lure of Europe. "Already 27 European broadcasters are committed to the Champions' League," he wrote. "They will present 650 programmes broadcasting some 1,170 hours to a television audience of around three billion viewers. To project our name, our stadium and our players to such a massive number is a wonderful opportunity for us... the eyes of Europe really are upon us."

Careful, Mr Chairman. Players making contractual demands might deduce from that that more of the wealth being generated around them should find its way in their direction.

Yet Ince's decision to play when not fully fit, the same option being taken in Antwerp by Newcastle United's Peter Beardsley, has nothing to do with financial gain. They

are two of a kind, Ince and Beardsley, enthusiasts for the game, reluctant in the extreme to miss out on the European nights.

What is the more remarkable about Ince is that in 1989 he signed a deal with Manchester United that paid him, and paid West Ham United, his former club, week by week, game by game, after a medical examination had suggested his playing career might be shortened by a pelvic strain. He has since played more than 200 times for United, has won seven major trophies and has captained England.

Moreover, with the possible exception of Dunga, the Brazil captain, Ince has become the player most improved by FIFA's disciplinary crackdown. Ince, this season, is refreshingly concentrating on playing and passing the ball, instead of

offering belligerence towards referees. He is the better for it, thrillingly so.

"Ince distinguished himself in terms of discipline on Wednesday night," Ferguson said yesterday. "He is becoming the leader I was wanting. He had the big picture sorted, his range of vision was tremendous, and when you are playing a youngster like Butt, you need leadership of that kind."

The good news for Manchester United, not so good for Liverpool, is that Ince was feeling so fit in training yesterday that he was doing somersaults and bicycle kicks. Liverpool know his importance to the side. John Barnes, himself restored to exciting form, believes "Ince is the real key to United. Cantona does brilliant things when it is going well, but you have to have people who win the battle first."

And when that battle attracts the size of television audience that Edwards alluded to, Europe is indeed a place of fulminating aspiration. Nowhere was this more evident on Wednesday than in Kiev, where the home team, Dynamo, representing the new nation of

Ukraine, met Moscow Spartak, the old enemy from Russia, in the Champions' League.

Almost 100,000 watched the 101st match between the two, for which Spartak were the favourites. In the first half the Russians led 2-0, but the Ukrainians rallied to score three times. Viktor Leonenko providing the first two with astonishing turns of speed and control, and then a young substitute, Sergei Rebrov, scoring the winner four minutes from the end. Youth was liberated in Manchester and in Ukraine.

Events on the field must also be seen in a wider context. On Tuesday, journalists attending the Blackburn Rovers v Trelleborgs UEFA Cup game were each handed a weighty glossy tome that proclaimed: "Blackburn Borough Council is aiming to show that it is not just Rovers who are bidding for European honours." The implication was that the success of its football team could put the town on the European map and help to influence people who distribute EC grants.

More than the desire of Jack Walker will be riding on the second leg in Sweden.

## Liverpool bring fresh challenge to United

By Peter Ball  
and Alexson Reid

THE challenges are coming thick and fast for Manchester United. As if a visit to Leeds and a European Champions' League match in four days were not enough, United have hardly had time to draw breath before they are confronted by their greatest domestic rivals, Liverpool, who visit Old Trafford today.

"Last Sunday wasn't a bad time for us to get a defeat and a reminder of what it's like and how much people want to beat you," Alex Ferguson, the United manager, said yesterday. "Liverpool have started very well, they have had a week's rest and they will come feeling confident."

With Newcastle United already giving notice of their intentions, United cannot afford to let the five-point gap between them and the leaders grow if they are to achieve a hat-trick of championships.

"We can handle it, but it's the three games in seven days thing which makes it a big test," Ferguson said. Liverpool, their new £3.6 million Irish international centre-half, fit debut playing in front of the back four to pick up Eric Cantona.

The remaining five Premier League clubs involved in European action converge on London. Newcastle travel to Highbury tomorrow, where Paul Merson, who scored twice in Arsenal's Cup Winners' Cup defeat of Olimpia Nicosia, could make way for Kevin Campbell.

Also tomorrow, Blackburn will be hoping to put their surprising defeat by Trelleborgs behind them at Stamford Bridge, where Chelsea beat Viktoria Zizkov on Thursday. Chelsea know they face a tough Cup Winners' Cup second-leg match against Viktoria, but do not yet know where the tie will be played. Czech police are concerned about security at Viktoria's small stadium.

Aston Villa return from their 1-0 defeat by Internazionale in Milan in the UEFA Cup to face West Ham United.



Rösler has become a cult figure at Maine Road

Peter Ball meets a German striker relishing life in Manchester

## Rösler showing an eye for the Maine chance

This summer Germany endured one of their worst World Cup for 40 years. Yet in England this is threatening to become the year of the German, with Klinsmann sweeping the country and Everton again being linked with the striker's international colleague, Karl-Heinz Riedle.

Then there is Uwe Rösler. Uwe who? It was a question even Brian Horton asked when an agent circulated Premier League clubs notifying them that Rösler was available. "Nobody had heard of him, including me," the Manchester City manager admitted.

That ignorance was forgivable. Rösler was one of a forgotten generation of players whose careers were transformed by the destruction of the Berlin Wall and the end of the Soviet bloc.

"It was the greatest thing for my generation," Rösler said, but for a time it put his career on hold. At the time he was playing for Dynamo Dresden in the East German first division, winning five East Germany caps before the national team was subsumed

into the Germany team. "I had no chance of playing in the unified team," he said. That may change.

Dresden were one of the few East German teams to get into the Bundesliga, but they were the poor relations, and although he transferred to Nuremberg for one season, the move was not a success. He returned to Dresden, but a broken ankle held up his progress.

He had still not fully recovered when the agent advised English clubs of his availability. At least one leading manager put the fax straight into the wastepaper basket. Middlesbrough gave him a trial, but did not sign him.

City took a chance and were amply rewarded. Anyone given the money, would sign an unknown East German took rather more judgment — or bravery.

He arrived in time to become the standard-bearer for the German invasion and to play an important part in City's successful fight to avoid relegation last season, and he has started the new season with dramatic effect. Nobody is asking "Uwe Who?" any longer. Instead, Uwemania is sweeping Manchester.

For less than £500,000, City may have acquired the bargain of the year. "I didn't think he would do that well," Horton admitted. "I can see him getting 20 goals this season."

That is only part of his contribution. In 15 games he has established himself as a cult figure with the notoriously critical Maine Road fans. Rösler is revelling in his move. "When I hear the fans chanting my name it sends shivers down my spine," he said. "I have never experienced anything like this."

In Manchester he is even being compared to Klinsmann. He parries the comparison, saying: "I think we are similar types of players, but his English is better than mine."

While Klinsmann is fluent in English, Italian, and French, Rösler learnt Russian at school and arrived with only two years' high school English.

"Have you brought your interpreter?" he asked when we met, but he has at last given City a figure to take some of the media attention away from Old Trafford, and the constant interviews are helping him improve his English.

The move to English football is the best thing that has happened to me," he said. "German football is more technique and tactic, but in England the tempo is very high and there is a lot happen-

ing in the penalty area, all the time the ball comes into the box and you have a lot of situations for scoring goals, which is my game."

He has struck up an impressive partnership with Paul Walsh. The pair had scored six goals this season in tandem before Rösler's suspension last week interrupted the flow. Walsh carried on his good work, but Rösler is now waiting nervously to see if he will get his place back from Niall Quinn at Hillsborough this afternoon.

Horton was "playing" his cards close to his chest yesterday. "Do I go for Uwe's movement or for a target man?" he said. "It's the nicest selection problem I've had since I have been here."

It will be a surprise, however, if Horton does not recall the German to partner Walsh. Rösler is almost the perfect striker, combining movement and awareness with the power and aggression of the more typical English forward.

"It is a good club for me," he said. "We are a very good team and I like Manchester. Manchester — or at least half of it — loves him."







## SPORT

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 17 1994

Spaniard receives support and sympathy on way to 69 at Woburn

## Ballesteros remains main attraction

BY JOHN HOPKINS  
GOLF CORRESPONDENT

IT IS not necessary to know what charisma means. Follow Severiano Ballesteros at a golf tournament and what you see explains the eight-letter word as well as *Chambers Dictionary*. Hundreds did so in the first round of the rain-delayed Dunhill British Masters at Woburn yesterday.

There were more with Ballesteros and his playing partners, Colin Montgomerie and Peter Baker, than with any other match. Is there any doubt that the Spaniard is the most popular, attractive and compelling golfer appearing on the European Tour?

Ballesteros had a 69, three under par, which leaves him two strokes behind the leaders, Martin Gales, Ian Palmer, Andrew Murray and Steve Bowman. Such is the magnetism of the Spaniard that his is a more gripping story than

## FIRST ROUND

Great Britain and Ireland unless stated  
67: M Gales, I Palmer (SA), A Murray, S Bowman (US), 68: E Els (SA), P Walton 69: G Orr, P McGinley, S Ballesteros (Sp), 70: M Davis, S Torrance, A Oldcorn, M Miller, B Lane, R Bostall, 71: J M O'Sullivan (Sp), V Fernandez (Arg), I Woodman, M McIlkenny, M James, M A Martin (Sp), S Tinning (Den), E O'Connell, D Ray, D Cooper, R Drummond, N Faldo, B Langer (Ger), O W Sison (SA), H Clark, R Gossan (SA), R Chapman, G Lawanson (SA), A Bragha (Italy), J Robinson, R Wessels (SA), 72: J Gales (Wel), D Gifford, J Hewkes (SA), S Ames (Tm), G Turner (NZ), B Gallacher, P Way, P Lawrie, S Lums (Sp), C Montgomerie, P Baker, C O'Connor, J E Romano (Arg), J Van de Velde (Fr), J Haegeman (Swi), P Cury

theirs, just as he is a greater attraction than they are. This is particularly so this week, when he is receiving sympathy for the cold-hearted and misguided treatment he received recently from the organisers of the World Match Play championship next month.

"Can you tell me why Seve wasn't invited to play at Wentworth?" a spectator asked as she walked slowly up the 15th. "It's such a shame. He is so charismatic." She was middle aged, clearly a golf follower, dressed in a scarf knotted under the chin, a three-quarter length jacket and sensible shoes. She was accompanied by a friend who wore waterproofs and golf shoes and was just as puzzled.

Here was a question that still echoes around the world of golf, even ten days after the announcement was first made. It is hard to answer. Logic suggests that as



Faldo comes to terms with an uphill task at the 6th during his one-under-par 71 in the first round of the Dunhill British Masters at Woburn yesterday

Ballesteros has only got through his first-round match once in the past four years (and on two other occasions has lost by 7 and 6 — a dog licence — and 8 and 6), he is no longer capable of the thrilling, devil-may-care play that made him such a compelling figure at this autumn classic for so long.

But that is the decision of men with steel in their souls, who let their heads overrule their hearts. There were plenty of spectators darting between

the silver birch, the larch and pine trees that line the fairways at Woburn yesterday as they pursued their hero who would not give that view housework.

"Personally, I could forgive Seve anything," said one man. A woman spoke, a mischievous grin forming around her mouth: "There are a lot of spectators out here, aren't there, and most of them are women."

Ballesteros, dressed in a sweater that caught the col-

ours of the autumn leaves and sniffing from a slight cold, showed a glimpse of humility after his round. This proud man, who pursues a cause almost as if it is a crusade, would be prepared to compete at Wentworth if someone dropped out — and John Daly, who is suffering from a bad back and may still be suspended for his brawl at the World Series, may do so.

"It's a great tournament," Ballesteros said. "If they called me up and asked me to play

I'd be happy to do so. I am not a child."

The rest of the day was dominated by putting stories. Ernie Els, the US Open champion and possessor of one of the smoothest strokes in golf, is complaining of putting poorly. He has abandoned the Ping putter with which he went round the Emirates course in 61, a cool 11 under par, last January and won the US Open at Oakmont in June. "My putting couldn't get much worse," Els said. Using

a new club on the greens, an Odyssey, he had a 68.

Meanwhile, Nick Faldo returned to putting with his hands reversed, as he had done for 26 holes in Switzerland two weeks ago. "I will stick with it for a while," Faldo said after a 71.

José María Olazábal might be the best putter of them all. Since July, he has won the World Series and finished second in the European Open. Yet he said he had been putting badly all this time and

had sought help from his fellow professionals. He claimed he missed seven putts of less than ten feet in his 71 yesterday.

On this, as on so many issues, Ballesteros had the last word. "So he can't putt, eh?" he said when hearing of his countryman's woes. A sarcastic look spread across his face.

"Yes, he has big problems. He has won five tournaments and \$5 million this year. I feel really sorry for him."

Anxious champion  
defeats Walker

FROM COLIN MCQUILLAN IN BARCELONA

CHRIS Walker's hopes of a famous win in the quarter-finals of the Ballantines world open squash championship dissolved after 11-11 in the opening game against Jansher Khan, the defending champion from Pakistan, into a 53-minute 15-11, 15-6, 15-10 defeat here yesterday.

Walker, the England No 2 from Colchester, Essex, felt he had played well, overcoming an awe of the top-ranked players that has sometimes inhibited his performance in the later stages of important events. Jansher, seemingly distracted at some points, thought he had played badly but was happy to have such a match out of his system before a semi-final today against Rodney Eyles, of Australia.

"Many of my drives finished in the middle of the court, which gave Chris more opportunity than usual to play his favourite short game," the 25-year-old Pakistani said. "You cannot play perfectly all the time. Some days it is just like that."

Those presuming that this might indicate a fatal flaw in Jansher's ambition this week to equal the six world open titles accumulated by his legendary compatriot, Jahangir Khan, would do well to note that bad days are relative. Walker was not particularly well served by Melnoud Kreischer, the Dutch referee, who featured strongly in a first-round match that his English colleagues, Simon Parke and Del Harris, had virtually to steer themselves to a fair conclusion. But from the moment Jansher detected a real threat in the opening game, his command became obvious, if not constantly se-

Popescu must wait to follow  
Klinsmann's debut example

BY ALYSON RUDD

GHEORGHE Popescu, Tottenham Hotspur's £2.9 million signing from PSV Eindhoven, will make his debut for the club on Wednesday night against Watford in the Coca-Cola Cup. Osvaldo Ardiles, the Tottenham manager, had hoped to include the Romanian international in the squad travelling to Filbert Street for their FA Carling Premiership fixture today, but there was a delay in processing Popescu's work permit.

The Department of Employment yesterday confirmed that it had all the information needed to issue a permit, freeing Popescu for Wednesday's match.

If a debut at Watford is an

omen, then Popescu can expect to be an instant crowd-pleaser. Jürgen Klinsmann made his debut for Tottenham at Vicarage Road in a pre-season exhibition and has not put a foot wrong since, scoring six times in the Premiership so far. Introducing Popescu at a press conference yesterday, Ardiles joked that he might play him at centre forward.

However, that appears to be the only position Popescu is unlikely to play in. Ardiles said the Romanian can play as part of the back four or as a libero behind the defence. "He gives me lots of different options."

Popescu, however, would like the option of a straight midfield role: "I think it's better for me to play a midfield

role," he said. Popescu, who prefers to be called Gica and has been capped 56 times for his country, said Tottenham's offer was tempting because the club plays "not too much with the long ball".

Neither do Barcelona, also linked with the Romanian in a deal planned for next season, but Popescu said he did not want to wait 12 months for a transfer. "Tottenham was now." The attraction of White Hart Lane was strengthened by Tottenham's signing of file Dumitrescu, Popescu's fellow Romanian international and friend.

Ardiles said that his aim this season was to win a place in Europe "and maybe the championship — it's a possibility but it's going to be very

difficult". The main difficulty from Ardiles's perspective is the six points Tottenham will lose at the end of the season, imposed by the Football Association for previous financial irregularities at the club.

A further handicap, however, is Tottenham's defensive frailty. The club's defence is inexperienced and not helped by sitting behind one of the more attacking-minded midfields in the country. This puts enormous pressure on Popescu. Tottenham are not planning any more significant signings so responsibility, to tightening the defence falls to the Romanian.

Barcelona have loaned Southampton, Ronnie Ekeund, their attacking midfield player. A fee of £500,000 has been agreed should Southampton wish to make the move permanent. The 22-year-old Dane is two years into a five-year contract with Barcelona, but in those two years he has only played just once.

Ekeund impressed Alan Ball, the Southampton manager, when he played for them in their pre-season tour of Holland and Belgium. Southampton were given access to Ekeund following a meeting between Johann Cruyff, the Barcelona manager and Ball, who are friends.

Southampton are likely to name Ekeund as substitute for today's game at The Dell against Nottingham Forest. Ball is expected to field an unchanged side following Southampton's win over Tottenham on Monday.



Popescu looks ahead to his Tottenham career yesterday. Photograph: Marc Aspland

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# WEEKEND

## AT ARNHEM

**Fifty years on, MICHAEL BINYON interviews the German commander at the battle**

**T**his weekend, thousands of elderly men are gathering in the south of Holland to commemorate one of the costliest, most heroic and finally most futile battles of the Second World War. Fifty years ago they descended on the same fields, woods and heathland from the clear September sky — wave upon wave of trained and experienced men from the 1st British Airborne Division, their parachutes filling the sky like foam and their gliders sweeping in to disgorge them 20 miles behind the German lines. The battle of Arnhem had begun.

Nine days later, the remnants of three battered armies — British, Polish and American — retreated after appalling losses. About 17,000 men had been killed, wounded or were missing in action, almost twice as many as in the initial D-Day assault on Normandy. "Market Garden", the codename for the most ambitious attempt ever made to combine paratroopers and land forces in a concentrated thrust through enemy lines, had failed. Montgomery's plan to leapfrog the rivers of the lower Rhine and race ahead to Berlin before the Russians arrived there had been shattered by the crushing force of two German panzer divisions.

My father, Captain Roger Binyon (pictured left with my mother), was one of the men who landed in Arnhem 50 years ago. He never came back. Squeezed with his men of the 9th Field Company, Royal Engineers, into a salient less than 1,000 yards wide at Oosterbeek, he was reported missing two days before the exhausted units crossed in the dead of night back over the lower Rhine to safety.

An architect by training, he had barely had time to begin a civilian career before the war came. He fought in North Africa, Sicily and Italy, and, like others in the Airborne Division, then spent much frustrating time preparing for operations that were aborted at the last moment. Finally, when more than 2,000 troop-carrying planes and gliders took off from bases in Oxfordshire and Gloucestershire in September 1944, the chance for a spectacular surprise victory appeared at hand. He was just 30. Married in 1943, he left behind my mother, seven months pregnant. He was never to know his unborn child.

In ceremonies all over southern Holland — in Arnhem, Oosterbeek, Nijmegen and the dozens of villages that were briefly liberated and then cruelly recaptured — Dutch civilians and his former comrades will this weekend remember him and the thousands who held out against desperate odds far longer than the flawed plans had foreseen. Above all they will remember the courage of one small group whose stand has

Continued on page 3, col 1



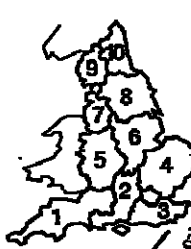
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## GALLERIES

Richard Cork

**THE GLORY OF VENICE:** The Royal Academy's autumn blockbuster transports us to Venice in the 18th century, when the city was in economic political decline. But its art enjoyed one final explosion of vitality. At one extreme, Tiepolo indulged in gravity-defying displays of aerobatics, sending angels and saints spinning through the sky. At the other, Canaletto focused on the scenes in front of his eyes, whether on the Venetian waterways or the Thames. The surprise of the survey is Piazzetta, a fascinating artist too little known to the British public. But Guardi and Piranesi provide more familiar delights, and Canova rounds off the show to prove that the skilful carver of *The Three Graces* tackled a range of other subjects as well. **Royal Academy, Piccadilly, London W1 (071-439 7438) until December 14.**

**SCULPTURE AT GOODWOOD:** A welcome initiative by Wilfred and Jeanette Cass, who own Hat Hill House on the Goodwood Estate in Sussex. They have transformed their 20-acre copse into an arena for modern sculpture. The 39 exhibits in the opening display present a surprisingly comprehensive array of British sculptors, ranging from Sir Anthony Caro's titanic *Tower of Discovery* to a bronze figure by young Royal College graduate Eva Drewitt. Some of the works, like Amy Goldsworthy's *Herd of Arches*, hide in the woods. Others bask in the clearings, and most are displayed to great advantage. **Hat Hill Sculpture Foundation (0243 538449), viewable by written appointment until November 6, Thurs-Sat 10.30am and 2.30pm.**

## FILMS

Geoff Brown

**SMOKING/NO SMOKING (PG):** Alan Ayckbourn translated into French, swathed in visual artifice by director Alain Resnais: a bizarre spectacle, with accomplished performances from Sabine Azéma and Pierre Arditi, cast in multiple roles as wives, husbands, lovers and hired hands pursuing multiple fates in a picture-postcard Yorkshire village. The linked films, exquisite but also exasperating, can be seen in any order. *Smoking* is the more openly comic; *No Smoking*, darker in tone, drags its feet, but revives with a dance of death on a misty hilltop. **Curzon West End (071-439 4805) Odeon Kensington (0426-914 666)**

Sabine Azéma in *Smoking*

**CLEAR AND PRESENT DANGER (12):** Harrison Ford, the thinking man's action hero, returns as Jack Ryan, fighting against Government duplicity and Colombia's drug barons in the best Tom Clancy movie to date. Director Phillip Noyce avoids the bloated action that marred *Patriot Games*, and prevents the complex plot from tripping itself up. Not much room for women here: Anne Archer just pulls worried faces. **Barbican (071-638 8891) Empire (0800 888911) MGMs: Baker Street (071-435 9772) Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Trocadero (071-434 0031) Notting Hill Coronet (071-727 6705) UCI Whiteleys (071-792 3332)**

## THEATRE

Benedict Nightingale

**THE DEVIL'S DISCIPLE:** Brisk, enjoyable if somewhat unadventurous revival of Shaw's characteristically impish American-revolution melodrama. Richard Bonville is the self-proclaimed diabolist who turns out to be the true Christian in a world of glum hypocrites and woebegone puritans. **National, Olivier, South Bank, SE1 (071-428 2252). Evenings, Wednesday September 21 to Saturday September 24, 7.15pm; matinees, Thursday September 22 and Saturday September 24, 2pm. Continues in repertoire.**

**BABIES:** Who would have believed council-estate Thamesmead to be as exuberant a place as Jonathan Harvey suggests? His latest comedy is a messy piece, but then it is celebrating sex in its messier, more confusing aspects, gay and straight. **Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (071-730 1745). Evenings, Monday to Saturday, 7.30pm; matinee, Saturday, 3.30pm.**



Chrissie Hynde: consolidating her status as a rock'n'roll heroine with The Pretenders (see Rock, right)

## JAZZ

Clive Davis

**JOSE NETO:** The Brazilian guitar virtuoso's name should be reasonably familiar by now as a result of his appearances in Fourth World, the multi-faceted Latin fusion band put together by the percussionist Aïro Moreira and the singer Flora Purim. Neto's flawless rhythm playing and his intriguing hybrid of acoustic and electric effects, all stripped of clichés, were the outstanding feature of the group's early visits. An unwelcome element of bombast began to creep in on later occasions, but he now returns as the leader of his own quartet, performing compositions from his eponymous debut album. **Ronnie Scott's, Frith St, London W1 (071-439 0747) Mon to Sat, support set from 9.30pm.**

**RONNIE SCOTT QUARTET:** No apologies for mentioning his name twice this week. Besides thumbing through his prehistoric (yet somehow still funny) stock of jokes, in his regular capacity as master of ceremonies, Scott also takes his quartet on a short journey across town this week. With John Critchinson at the piano, Martin Drew on the drums and relative newcomer Andy Cleynert on the

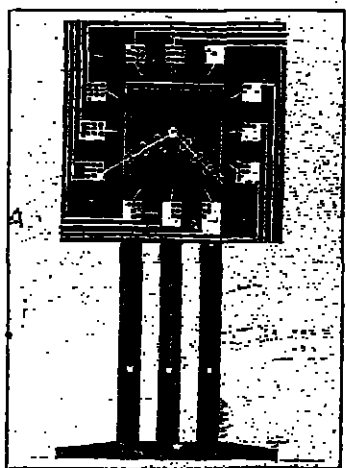
double-bass, the group demonstrates an easy mastery of the bop tradition. If the leader's own contributions tend to swing abruptly from the volcanic to the tepid, his best work is a reminder that a good solo, like joke-telling, is all in the timing. **Purcell Room, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 8800), Fri, 7.30pm.**

## MUSEUMS

John Russell Taylor

**CONRAD FELIXMULLER:** A second-generation Expressionist from Dresden, Felixmuller made his name in his early twenties, when he was a member of the Communist Party and contributed drawings to radical journals such as *Die Aktion* and *Menschen*. He looked for subject-matter in the industrial region of the Ruhr, when he was not drawing material from his own home life, and his work, for all its bold Expressionist distortion (notably in the primitivist wood cuts), is one of the most powerful exponents in Weimar Germany of an extreme left-wing ethos. Inevitably Felixmuller's work was branded "degenerate" by the Nazis, but he survived to teach and paint again after the war. The prints and drawings in this show of

works on paper mostly date from his early and most politically committed years. **Courtauld Institute Galleries, Somerset House, The Strand, London WC2 (071-873 2526), Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2-6pm, until October 30. Admission £3, concessions £1.50.**



Mackintosh's clock design

**C.R. MACKINTOSH: THE CHELSEA YEARS:** Fresh from the Hunterian Art Gallery of Glasgow University, this show chronicles the work of the great Scottish architect in his later years, after he had abandoned Glasgow

for Chelsea. In terms of reputation and worldly success, the years 1915-23 were a period of decline. But now matters have taken on a rather different complexion. Mackintosh's later work makes the transition from Art Nouveau to Art Deco with great panache, most spectacularly in his fixtures and fittings for his last completed architectural assignment, at 78 Derngate, Northampton, and the later graphics are stunning. **RIBA Heinz Gallery, 21 Portman Square, London W1 (071-580 5533 ext 4807), Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 10am-1pm, until October 29, Free.**

## DANCE

John Percival

**VIVARTA:** This annual festival offers contemporary treatments of South-East Asian dance traditions. It opens this year with a double bill to be performed in three cities by two remarkable soloists. Ellen van Schuylenburch, known for her collaboration with avant-garde British choreographers, dances *Silence is a Rhythm Too*, made for her by the Indian choreographer Daksha Sheth. Roger Sinha repeats his semi-autobiographical *Burning Skin* from last year and adds *Pehla Safar*, in which he is joined by Natasha Bakht. **Phoenix Arts, Newark Street, Leicester (0533 554854) Sun 18 at 7.30pm; The Place, Duke's Road, London WC1 (071-387 0031) Mon, Tue at 8pm; Riley Theatre, Chapelown Road, Leeds (0532 625359) Sun 24 at 7.30pm. Then Imtiaz combine Indian bathing ceremonies, funerals and statuary in *Parabolas*. The Place (as above) Wed, Thu at 8pm; Phoenix Arts (as above) Sun 25 at 7.30pm.**

**CUMBRE FLAMENCA:** Five dancers, four guitarists and five singers make up this troupe, who in three previous London seasons have enjoyed a great success with their presentation of Spain's best known and most popular dance styles. They are here for three weeks only, and tickets are likely to go fast. **Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (071-278 8916), opens Tue until October 8, weekdays at 7.30pm, Sats at 3pm, 8pm.**

## ROCK

David Sinclair

**TRAFFIC:** The first new Traffic album for 20 years, *Far From Home*, failed to spark quite the level of excitement it might have done. Now comes the long-awaited tour, and while there is a definite sense of occasion, several nagging uncertainties remain. Of the original line-up, only Steve Winwood and Jim Capaldi are present in the reconverted group. The flautist Chris Wood died in 1983, but no suitable explanation has been given for the absence of guitarist and singer Dave Mason, who wrote several of their best-known songs. Traffic may be a name of near-mythical status in the annals of British rock, but is this reunion a bit of a half-hearted cash-in, and can they possibly sound as good as Paul Weller? Find out at: **Hammersmith Apollo, Queen Caroline Street, London W6 (081 741 4868), Tues 20; Breakwood Centre, Duddinghurst Road, Essex (0277 224386), Thur 22; Royal Concert Hall, Glasgow (041-332 6633), Sat 24; Manchester Apollo, Ardwick Green (061-273 3775), Sun 25; Newcastle City Hall, Northumberland Road (091-261 2606), Wed 28; Sheffield City Hall, Bickers Pool (0742 735295), Fri 30; BIC, Exeter Road, Bournemouth (0202 297297), Sun October 2; Coston Hall, Colston Street, Bristol (0272 262857), Mon 3, all concerts 7.30pm.**

**PRETENDERS:** Having whipped her trio of leather boys into shape with a series of low-key shows earlier in the year, Chrissie Hynde returns to consolidate her status as one of rock'n'roll's longest-serving heroines. The band's album, *Last of the Independents*, was a tough and sexy restatement of first principles, which benefited no end from the return of original drummer Martin Chambers to the fold. The live show is a similarly authoritative affair, with Hynde applying her typically waspish touch to new members such as "Hollywood Partisan" and "Love Colour", alongside old favourites, including "Middle Of The Road". **Wolverhampton Civic Hall, St Peter's Square (0902 312036), Mon 19; Town & Country, Cookridge Street, Leeds (0532 800100), Tues 20; Rock City, Talbot Street, Nottingham (0532 429446), Wed 21; Barrowland, Glasgow (041-332 4601), Thur 22; Manchester Apollo, Ardwick Green (061-273 3775), Fri 23; Odeon Exchange, Wheeler Street, Cambridge (0223 357851), Mon 26; Guildhall, Guildhall Square, Portsmouth (0705 824355), Tues 27; Brixton Academy, Stockwell Road, London SW9 (071-924 9999), Wed 28; Newport Leisure Centre, Kingsway, Gwent (0633 259676), Thurs 29, all concerts 7.30pm.**

## CHILDREN

Richard Morrison

**GURRELIEDER:** It opened the Proms two months ago; now Schoenberg's monster cantata is back to open the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra's new season under Simon Rattle's direction. Rattle has assembled a team of soloists that include such veterans as Rita Hunter, star of the ENO Ring in



Rita Hunter: Birmingham date

the 1970s, and that durable tenor John Mitchinson, plus the combined forces of the CBSO and Philharmonia Chorus. The result should shake the walls. **Symphony Hall, Centenary Square, Birmingham (021-212 3333), Thurs 22, 7.30pm, Sat 24, 7pm.**

**GEORGE LLOYD:** The story of George Lloyd's fight to get his romantic, large-scale orchestral and choral works performed in the 1960s and 1970s, when the musical establishment in Britain was very anti-melody, is well known. For a number of years the composer gave up music altogether and became a market gardener. He has certainly made up for lost time since. The Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, under the composer's direction, here gives the world premiere of *The Dying Tree*, surely the first music ever inspired by Dutch elm disease, and the British premiere of Lloyd's 1993 orchestral work *Phasing Cloud*, as well as his Sinfonia No 11. More than just a curiosity, Lloyd's music has a strange power that transcends any anomalous historical position. **Barbican Hall, Silk Street, London, EC2 (071-638 8891), Tues 20, 7.30pm.**

**LONDON**  
**Asterix Convention:** A celebration of 25 years of Asterix in Britain with Albert Uderzo drawing, Willie Rushton reading, lots of computer games to play, a treasure hunt and a quiz. **Commonwealth Institute, 230 Kensington High Street, W8 (071-873 6213). Today, 10am-6pm. Adult and two children under 12, £5.50.**

**Great River Race:** More than 200 traditional crafts compete, from Chinese Dragon boats, Hawaiian war canoes and royal barges. The race starts at Ham House, Richmond and finishes at Island Gardens, opposite Greenwich Pier. **River Thames, best views from the South Bank. Today, 1.5.30pm. Free.**



Thames dragon boats

**Cosmic Pinball:** Launch of the latest virtual reality attraction at the Trocadero's Emagator, a computer-generated ride said to challenge both physical and mental powers. **The Trocadero Centre, Piccadilly Circus, London W1. Enquiry line 071-431 5306. Daily from Thursday, 11am-midnight, £3.**

**Unicorn Arts Theatre:** Two new productions for children. Opening today, 2.30pm, *Now and Then* by Andy Rashleigh, about family life in the 1930s, 40s and 60s. Opening Saturday 2.30pm, *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, a new staging of C.S. Lewis's classic. **Arts Theatre, Great Newport Street, London WC2H 7TB (071-836 3334). Saturdays 11am, 2.30pm, Sundays 2.30pm, £4, £6.50, £7.50.**

**CLEVELAND**  
**Fungus Foray:** Find out about mushrooms and toadstools, both edible and non-edible. **Griffiths Car Park, Great Ayton, Middlesbrough (0287 605040). Today, 2-4pm. £1.50, child 50p.**

**DORSET**  
**Migration - the return journey:** See the arrivals and departures of the water birds. **RSPB Radipole Lake Nature Reserve, Swanney Car Park, Weymouth (0305 778313). Tomorrow, 2pm, £2, child £1.**

**ESSEX**  
**Fruits, Berries and Galls:** Discover the foods of autumn. **Stour Estuary Nature Reserve, Wrabness, Harwich (0255 886043). Tomorrow, 2-4.30pm, £2, child £1.**

**HERTFORDSHIRE**  
**Working Day at Ashridge:** Heavy horses in action, timber loading and hay turning. See the parade of all breeds. **Ashridge Estate, Near Berkhamstead (0442 842488). Tomorrow, 10am-5pm. £2.50, child £1.50.**

**KENT**  
**Smugglers and Revenue Men:** Local people get caught "owing" (smuggling wool out of the country). Intrigue from the 17th century. **Upton Castle, Upton, Near Rochester (0634 718742). £2.50, child £1.50.**

**WALES**  
**Vintage Car Rally:** Family day out with slideshows and dog agility display. **Tredegar House and park, Newport, Gwent (0633 85145). Tomorrow, 11.30am-6pm. £3.50, child £2.**

**Stars at Night:** View the sky at night, bring binoculars and something to sit on. **Afan Argoed Countryside Centre, Afan Forest Park, Cynonville, Port Talbot, West Glamorgan (0439 850564). Today 9pm. Free.**

**YORKSHIRE**  
**Craft Fair:** Falconry, dog making, sleepdogs, and letter racing. **Nostell Priory, Doncaster Road, Nostell, Near Wakefield (01924 863922). Today, tomorrow, 10am-6pm. £2, child £1.50.**

**HEATHER ALSTON**

## Ruth Gledhill pays her dues, both material and spiritual, to Ely cathedral

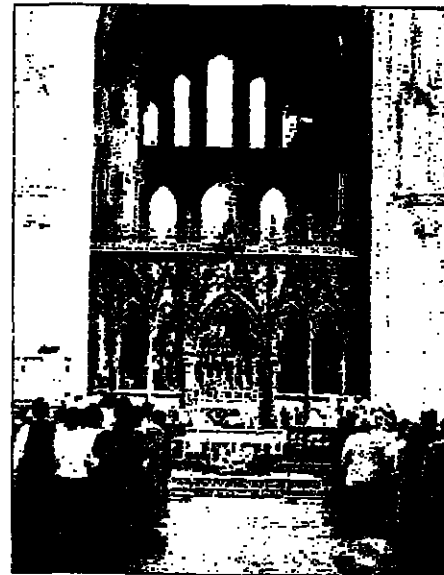
## AT YOUR SERVICE



THE notice as I entered Ely cathedral reminded me that worship has been offered on the site for 1,300 years, and it costs more than £2,000 a day to keep the cathedral open. Although entry to this magnificent 12th-century Gothic building is free on Sundays, it was difficult to pass a largely empty glass case with a thin layer of coins at the bottom without making a donation. However, I managed to do so, and arrived at the end of the nave for Evensong beneath Ely's unique masterpiece, the medieval octagon with lantern above.

Ely, which, along with St Paul's in London, is one of the few to charge for admission, will feature in a report next month on the role of cathedrals into the next century. The report, by a commission chaired by Lady Howe, is expected to come down in favour of charges. The cathedral is a mixture of many architectural styles, and to worship is to step across the centuries. As I approached, it rose above the trees and mist, justifying its nickname "the ship of the Fens". It was founded by St Etheldreda, who allowed neither of her husbands their conjugal rights and died in 679 of a throat tumour brought on by bubonic plague. Inside, service in the shop was charmingly eccentric, and we almost failed to make it out in time for the service. However, the appallingly modern furnishings beneath the octagon, and the altar that looked depressingly like a carpenter's worktable, joined me into the present.

Canon Jim Rone, the cathedral treasurer, began: "Worship the Lord in the presence of holiness... we come together to offer to Him through our Lord Jesus Christ our worship, our praise and our thanksgiving." There were about 60 of us in the congregation, and most of



Mixed styles in the cathedral interior

us sat back and listened, allowing the music and liturgy to wash over us in an experience that felt almost cleansing.

The most pleasurable parts were listening to the *Magnificat* and the anthem, Wood's *The Fair Chivalry*. I thought of St Etheldreda during our reading, from 1 Peter: "Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same thought, for whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin." The tourists continued to come and go as we moved into the beautiful liturgy of the *Nunc Dimittis*: "Lord now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace."

There was no sermon, but Canon Rone made up for it in the prayers: "We give thanks to God for the church, for the many blessings which the church brings to so many people,"

he said. "Almighty God, whose church is over all thy works, we praise thee for the blessings that have been brought to mankind. We humbly beseech thee that we may be numbered with them in that company of the redeemed in heaven."

He referred to those visitors who had left notes asking for prayers. "Have pity we implore thee. Look mercifully on the poor, the oppressed, the destitute. Fill our hearts with deep compassion for those who suffer."

"Drive from us every evil and give thine angels charge over us. Guard us ever in life or death, that whether we wait or seek, we may live together in thee." On leaving I could no longer resist the lure of the near-empty case and inserted a coin, judging the price to be less heavy than the weight of guilt.

● Sunday services: 10.30am sung eucharist, 3.45pm evensong.

The Cathedral of the Holy and Undivided Trinity, Ely, Cambs 4D7 4DN (0353 667735).

DEAN: Very Rev Michael Higgins.

ARCHITECTURE: Intricate and extraordinary combination dating from 11th century.★★★★★

MUSIC: The Rochester Clerks, in place of the cathedral choir, sang Cucas' *Preces*. The setting was Howell's in G.★★★★

LITURGY: 1662 Book of Common Prayer, with a note at the start to remind us that "many have found that through participation by silent attention, while ministers and choir speak and sing in their name, they make the words and music their own."★★★★

AFTER-SERVICE CARE: Tea and far-free fruit cake with one of the canons, but coffee for worshippers is served generally only after Sunday morning communion.★★

SPIRITUAL HIGH: Restfulness mixed with pride at worshipping in one of the few places in England where the church remains the material and spiritual heart of the city.★★★



# COVER STORY

## 'They were fine young men, but we had a job to finish'

Continued from page 1

come to symbolise the heroism and the tragedy of the entire operation: Lieutenant Colonel John Frost and the men who captured and held the final objective, the road bridge over the Rhine at Arnhem, the "bridge too far" in the memorable phrase of Lieutenant General "Boy" Browning, the overall Allied commander.

Frost will not be at the ceremonies this weekend; he died in May last year. Nor will his nemesis, the man with whom he fought a bitter duel for control of the bridge, Brigadier General Heinz Harmel, commander of the 10th "Frundsberg" Division of the Waffen-SS. Herr Harmel, the victor of Arnhem, is very much alive, however, and at 89 is probably the senior surviving German commander of the Second World War, and certainly the only man who later defied a personal radio order from Hitler in his bunker and escaped court martial.

There will be no Germans at Arnhem this weekend. As with D-Day, memories are still too cruel for those who survived the slaughter. Herr Harmel, who has several times visited the site of his famous victory, insists he should stay away. He has made his personal reconciliation. Frost and the others who were finally captured at the bridge began the process immediately after the war. They told the Allied investigators that Herr Harmel had fought like a soldier and a gentleman, having at one point offered a truce and at another time ordered a brief ceasefire so that the wounded and the dying, stranded on the battered bridge and in the wrecked surrounding houses, could be taken to makeshift medical centres. Herr Harmel and Frost later became firm friends, respecting each other in peace as they had in battle.

He says: "Now, if John Frost had said that I should take part in these ceremonies, I would have done so. But I do not think the Dutch people are ready for German participation. And I have no wish to be the cause of pain and resentment."

A former professional soldier transferred to a crack new SS Panzer division in the middle of the war, Herr Harmel saw ceaseless action on almost every front — in Russia, in Normandy, at Arnhem and finally in the vain attempt to hold off the Russians on the collapsing eastern front. But Arnhem has remained for him the most poignant of all the encounters.

He has seen himself played by a German actor in the film *A Bridge Too Far* (though he complained that his role was conflated with that of Walter Harzer, commander of the other Panzer division, the "Hohenstaufen", which, faithfully, was also resting and regrouping in Arnhem in the week of the Allied drop).

The modest flat in Krefeld, near the Dutch border, where Herr Harmel lives with his wife and his memorabilia, is



Herr Harmel as a wartime Waffen-SS officer (top), and as he is today



Lt Col John Frost, whose men captured the vital road bridge at Arnhem

full of documents, the wartime memoirs of German and Allied commanders, and many of the 400 or so books written about Arnhem. Cornelius Ryan, the American chronicler of the battle, visited him for lengthy consultations, and now almost every week historians ask him to tell his version of events.

His looks and his memory are as vigorous as his bluff, wartime reputation. But, having tried for 50 years to adjust to a more humdrum life as a furniture salesman, he has refused to write his memoirs and remains wary of questions about his role in serving the German war machine. Even his wife, who marvels that her husband survived, maintains that his professionalism only

prolonged the inevitable collapse — "A not unjustified reproach," he says, but one impossible to make to a soldier sworn to serve his country.

"People used to ask me: 'Why did you all not just throw your weapons away and go home?'" he says. Both Germans and foreigners make no distinction now between the SS — Nazi fanatics responsible for countless atrocities — and the Waffen-SS, often toughened soldiers conscripted into elite units who were all later tarred with the SS associations. Herr Harmel moved south to the American front immediately after the battle of Arnhem; it was other SS units that inflicted such suffering on the Dutch civilians in the area in the final winter of the war.

He has often reflected on how the battle could have gone otherwise. It was not, he now thinks, a turning point rather it was "a little episode we settled in about eight days". But from it both sides learnt lessons and both made mistakes.

The greatest Allied blunder, he says, was dropping the airborne troops so far from their final objective — they landed some eight miles from the bridge at Arnhem — and not supplying the forces with all their equipment on the first day. The British should have mobilised more planes immediately; bad weather and the failure to hold the dropping zones made resupply later extremely difficult.

He also criticises the underestimation of the difficulties of bringing the land forces quickly enough across terrain that was criss-crossed with rivers and canals and where the narrow roads, high above the fields, made it easy for the Germans to hit the lead tanks and block the entire column.

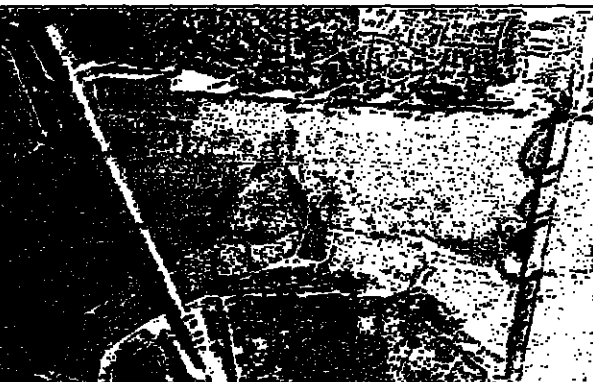
As for the late intelligence the Allies obtained — that there were German tanks in the vicinity — he says: "They were a bit too arrogant, the men at the top. The Dutch Resistance informed them. And they just smiled and were over-confident. They still had the idea that our army had been completely finished off in Normandy."

Herr Harmel also believes the Allies had too many commanders who were too often at cross purposes. This led to confusion. And, fatally, it undermined initiative — as when the American tanks managed to cross the one bridge at Nijmegen on the approach to Arnhem that the Germans had failed to detonate. "They should have gone on. But they had no orders. They stopped, waiting for the infantry who had crossed the river in boats. In their place I would have said: 'Come on, lads, we've got to keep going. All the way to Arnhem.'"

He is as critical of mistakes on the German side. The main one was keeping his troops in battle so long that they were exhausted. "In Normandy we did not have a single day off," he says. "There was no time to sleep. It was always from one hellhole into another hellhole."



The Dutch landscape is flecked with white as thousands of Allied paratroopers drop towards Arnhem for one of the war's grimmest battles 50 years ago



The Nijmegen road (left) and rail bridges over the Rhine

There was the constant danger of being cut off.

And he views with derision the frantic improvisation by Hitler and the German High Command that saw his division transported the entire breadth of Europe twice within six months. They were sent to Normandy in January 1944, only to be rushed to the eastern front in spring to rescue a besieged German army of 250,000 men. They arrived in Ukraine in 72 trains.

"We unloaded on March 28 in bitter cold and deep snow minus 30 degrees," he says. "And then we heard the news on the radio of the landings in Normandy. And we cursed that we weren't there. We entrained again on June 12 and took at least eight days to

get back across the French border. We were unloaded in Metz and had to march, at night because there was no air cover, to the front. We were seasoned troops with 15 months of training, but I think we spent more time in trains than fighting."

The fault of the High Command was also to believe that the two panzer divisions were at their nominal strength of 18,000 men each when, in fact, "we were bled white". Each had lost at least half its men in the bloody retreat from Normandy. But Herr Harmel insists that they reacted swiftly and effectively at Arnhem.

Herr Harmel, who won an Iron Cross during the war, still maintains something of his old loyalties and discipline.

He has nothing but contempt for the Nazis, and refers occasionally to orders from the Führer in recalling the events.

He was barely 38 when he was promoted to Brigadier General and took over his division in Normandy, having come up through the ranks and made his name entirely on his experience. Soldiering had clearly been the high point of his career.

Now he speaks with regret, frankness and respect about Arnhem. There is no false humility, no agonising over doing what he had to do. But professional pride in a battle won is overwhelmed by the knowledge of a war lost — and especially, as he freely admits, that he served the cause of an evil regime.

He escaped death himself by a whisker more than a dozen times, and still has the nick in his ear where a Russian bullet pierced his iron helmet and whizzed past his brain. And he is sorrowful by so many dead: as he told me when I first asked him, ten years ago, about his feelings on ordering the end to the brief ceasefire at the bridge, "It was very sad: they were fine young men, but we had a job to finish."

Herr Harmel looks back now on a united Germany 50 years after it was split asunder on defeat. He is one of the last

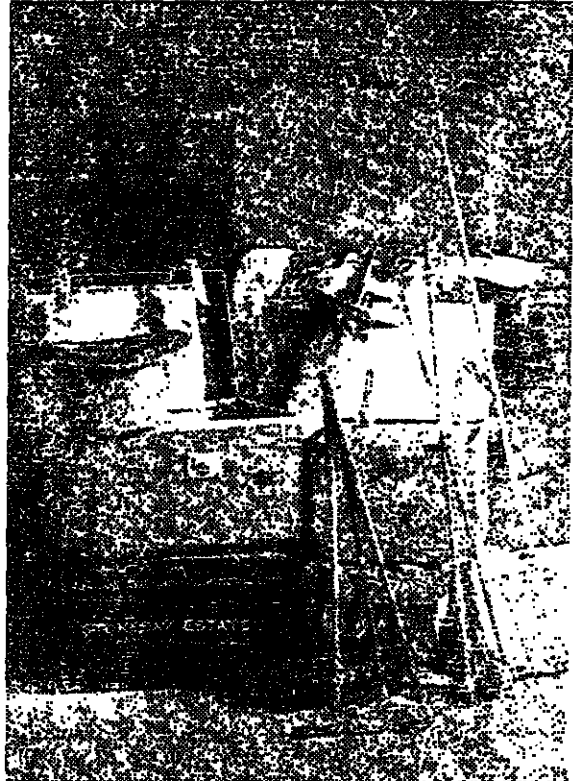
commanders alive who determined the fate of Germany so many years ago. After the Russian victory in the east, one which he tried to hold up at Coburg in April 1945, he was never able to return to his birthplace in Schwerin, in former East Germany, even to bury his parents.

What he sees now is a better, peaceful country, in which he

has grown old quietly and in freedom. He keeps up with contemporary politics. He corresponds with old wartime friends. He remembers every detail of Arnhem and is happy to discuss it with the son of one of the men sacrificed to the German guns.

Herr Harmel has a humanity and humility my father would have admired.

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**SOTHEBY'S**  
WINDMILL

Michael Evans on three books marking the 50th anniversary of the disastrous battle; all blame the generals

## Doomed to destruction

MONTGOMERY said the battle of Arnhem was 90 per cent successful, yet it led to the virtual destruction of one of the finest formations ever fielded in war by the British Army. Three books published to mark the 50th anniversary of Arnhem all agree, as Martin Middlebrook puts it in *Arnhem-1944: The Airborne Battle*, that the battle was lost, not by the men who fought there but by the over-confidence of generals, poor planning and the failure of a relieving force given too great a task.

Whether it is right to call Arnhem a glorious defeat or, as history has judged, a total failure, it was, in the words of Robert Jackson in *Arnhem: The Battle Remembered*, "a victory of the spirit".

The images from Arnhem, especially the moments of extraordinary courage and fortitude, linger on: in Osterbeck church, Major Dickie Lonsdale, second-in-command of 11th Parachute Battalion, rousing his exhausted men with a stirring speech from the pulpit; Major

Robert Cain of the 2nd Battalion The South Staffordshire Regiment, later awarded a Victoria Cross, personally hunting down and knocking out six tanks and a number of self-propelled guns.

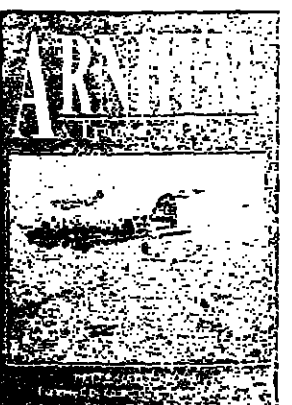
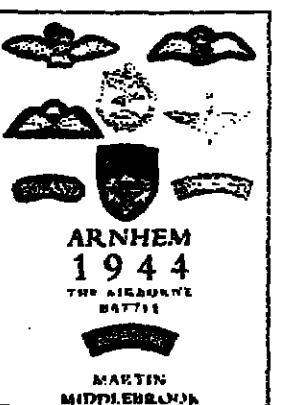
The survivors get angry when they hear and read of the failure of Arnhem, for they fulfilled what was expected of them as soldiers, including total devotion to duty, superb discipline, leadership by example and a determination to fight on against overwhelming odds.

The errors of judgment were made elsewhere, in the early stages of the planning when Allied generals, eager to capitalise on the success of the Normandy landings, conceived a plan aimed at thrusting deep into Germany and, in particular, into the industrial heartland of the Ruhr. Montgomery, architect of the plan, believed that the capture of the Ruhr would bring the Germans to their knees by Christmas 1944.

However, Operation Market Garden, as it was codenamed, was the result of



All the books agree on one thing: poor planning led to the devastating losses



hasty planning. Months of training and preparation preceded 6th Airborne Division's invasion of Normandy. Yet, as Peter Hards says in *Arnhem: A Tragedy of Errors*, Market Garden, which was to be the largest airborne operation ever launched, was mounted in just seven days.

The battle planned for two days lasted for nine. The first aircraft took off at 9.45am on September 17, carrying the lead elements of three airborne divisions: 1st Airborne Division bound for Arnhem, and two American divisions, the 101st Airborne and 82nd Airborne whose role was to seize ground and create a safe corridor down which XXX Corps, led by Lieutenant General Brian Horrocks,

would sweep towards Arnhem to link up with the British airborne troops. Despite evidence of German reinforcements in the Arnhem area, the men of 1st Airborne Division arrived at their drop zone unaware that the formidable 9th and 10th SS Panzer Divisions were located north and east of the town.

The first fatal decision was made by Major General Paul Williams, commander of 9th US Troop Carrier Command. Supported by Lieutenant General Lewis Brecreton, commander of First Allied Airborne Army, he refused to allow his aircraft to make two sorties a day because of aircraft fatigue and maintenance difficulties. So 1st Airborne Division had to be

taken in three lifts over three consecutive days. After the first drop, the element of surprise was gone. Major General Roy Urquhart, commander of 1st Airborne Division, wanted to drop as close as possible to the Arnhem bridge. But Air Vice Marshal Leslie Hollinghurst, commander of 38 Group RAF, said there were heavy anti-aircraft defences in Arnhem and insisted on dropping zones well away from the bridge.

Endhoven, and then with the 82nd US Airborne Division. However, fatal hours spent at Nijmegen, just 11 miles from Arnhem, on the night of September 20/21, allowed the Germans to build up defensive positions along the route to Arnhem.

There were reasons for the overnight delay. The Guards Armoured Division of XXX Corps, which was leading the advance, was still involved in winking out elements of the enemy in Nijmegen. The units were also short of ammunition and fuel.

There were also problems in supplying XXX Corps down the single road which was under enemy fire. So while the remnants of 1st Airborne Division were fighting for their lives in Arnhem, the advance of XXX Corps came to a halt.

Arnhem was the last major battle lost by the British Army, and each of the anniversary books, especially the compelling accounts by Hards and Middlebrook, graphically portray what amounts to a story of great human endurance and courage.

● *Arnhem: A Tragedy of Errors*, by Peter Hards (Arms and Armour, £16.99). *Arnhem-1944: The Airborne Battle*, by Martin Middlebrook (Viking, £18), and *Arnhem: The Battle Remembered*, by Robert Jackson (Airlife Publishing, £19.95).



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# A baton charge up the ladder

Are you lying awake each night worrying about whether the expected appointment of Willy Claes, a Belgian politician, as Secretary-General of Nato is a good thing for world peace? Let me reassure you. Claes is a musician. In fact, he trained as a musician. In *The Guardian*, on Thursday, Claes stressed how vital his talent is. "If more politicians studied music," he said, "we would perhaps find it easier to find solutions to the great problems we face."

What's more, according to *The Guardian*, "far from abandoning music, he remains a passionate and active conductor and composer, commanding genuine respect among the many international orchestras which he is invited to conduct each year."

Gosh, how strange that I have never come across him. I do go to the odd concert. I consulted the *International Who's Who in Music*. No Claes is listed among its 11,000 entries. An oversight, clearly. But he is there in Claes in the 1,000-page *Contemporary Composers*, nor in the 20-volume *New*

*Grove Dictionary of Music*. Very odd. Surely a man aiming for the key job in Western security is not suffering from delusions, or feeding *Guardian* journalists with whoppers?

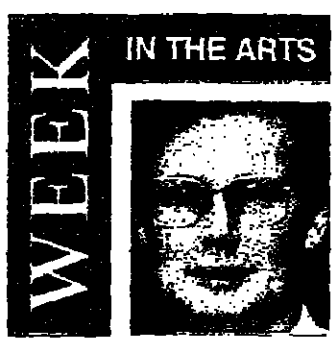
I consulted *The Times*' team of music critics — who are, of course, unsurpassed sources of expertise. "Never heard of the geezer," they chorused in perfect unison. A cold sweat of panic came over me. At the London Symphony Orchestra, there was similar bewilderment. "No we haven't ever used a conductor called Claes," said a spokeswoman. "In fact, we've never heard of him. But presumably, as Secretary-General of Nato, he would be very good with the cannons in the 1812 overture."

Oh, very satirical. Don't you realise the defence of democracy is at stake, young lady?

Perhaps I was being too parochial in my inquiries. I called America

(damn the expense, this is investigative journalism) and spoke to the Los Angeles Philharmonic. "I've never heard of him, and I know a lot of obscure conductors," said the LA Phil spokesman. "You say he commands respect among international orchestras? Oh, come on!"

Dear me, most perplexing. Many distinguished politicians, of course, have dabbled in music with varying degrees of prowess. Helmut Schmidt, former German Chancellor, made a very presentable EMI recording of Mozart's Concerto for Three Pianos — though he took care to choose the easiest of the three solo parts. Bill Clinton blows a mean blues on the saxophone when he is feeling low, which must be quite often. Coming from the reverse direction, the great pianist Paderewski was briefly Poland's Prime Minister. But a European statesman who believes himself to be a renowned



RICHARD MORRISON

conductor? Doctors call this condition the "Edward Heath Syndrome", and the London Symphony Orchestra can tell you all about it. When Heath was Prime Minister, he went on *Desert Island Discs* and selected a recording of himself conducting the LSO

in Elgar's *Cockaigne*. He tells us why in his seminal book, *Music: A Joy For Life*. As Prime Minister, I wanted the British to regain their former pride and ebullience. Perhaps the right performance of *Cockaigne* could show the way. And the rest is history.

Perhaps Willy Claes is hoping to restore Nato's pride by the passion of his adagio. But it would boost his credibility, a little if he played down the "international conductor" bit in his curriculum vitae.

Tonight at the Whitehall Theatre in London the curtain falls for the last time on *Patsy Cline: A Musical Tribute*. You may be a particular fan of its star — that evergreen of the Grand Ole Opry, George Hamilton IV — in which case I apologise in advance for my remarks and wish good health to Mr Hamilton IV — and indeed to all the little Hamil-

tons V, VI and VII when their turn comes, as I fear it will.

But my heart leapt when I heard that Patsy was closing. For you cannot move in the West End these days without stumbling over shows about dead musicians. London's theatreland is beginning to resemble a séance in sequins.

Consider this sepulchral list. *Buddy*, celebrating Buddy Holly's life and songs, has just reached up its 2,000th performance. *Five Guys Named Moe*, Clarke Peters's tribute to Louis Jordan, is in its fourth year. Peters's new show, *Let There Be Love*, about Nat King Cole, opened this week. And *Only the Lonely*, the unforgettable story of the music legend Roy Orbison, comes to the West End next week.

Nostalgia really is what it used to be. In fact, it's considerably more. Nevertheless, if West End theatre is going to survive, I would recommend that the leading pro-

ducers lighten up on their obsession with the late, great legends of the Fifties and Sixties, and attempt just the occasional new show with contemporary music. Perhaps they should emulate Radio 3.

How so? Well, from next month our new, youthful, trendy and accessible Radio 3 has decided to broadcast something called *Superstunes*, a series of "drive-time" programmes (is that the same as "tea-time"?), promising to explain the mysteries of such things as hip hop, jungle, acid jazz, ambient house and thrash metal music.

The publicity put out by the makers of *Superstunes* is nothing if not strenuous. "Drive-time oldies! Would you like to understand the cacophony of rubbish your teenage kids call music? Well here's how you can learn..."

Now why didn't Lord Reith think of that? By October 16, the makers continue, "Radio 3 stalwarts will be as comfy with Kiss FM as they are with Khachaturian." Or possibly defecting to Classic FM by the thousand. Still, you can't say that Radio 3 isn't trying. Very trying indeed at times.

## GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament  
RICHARD BONNEVILLE

Profession: Producer and actor

Age: 30

Most recent acting work: *Dick Dugden in The Devil's Disciple*, just opened at the National Theatre.

Previously: The comically right-on Tony in Jonathan Harvey's *Beautiful Thing* on tour and at the Opera House this summer. Next week it starts previews for its transfer to the Duke of York's.

Without Bonneville, presumably? Yes and no. One of the producers is Hugh Williams.

Whose full name is Hugh Richard Bonneville Williams? "My first acting job was at Regent's Park and that's where my stage name came in. I didn't want to spend the rest of my career being asked if I was related to the other Hugh Williams [actor and author of many light comedies in the 1960s]."

Has he always wanted to be an actor and/or producer? "I read theology at Cambridge. I had every intention of going on to become a lawyer, so I thought I'd do three years of something I reasonably enjoyed first. I produced *Coriolanus* there, but I sometimes acted and directed. Then I decided to go to Webber Douglas and train as an actor."

How did he get involved with *Beautiful Thing*? "I saw it at the Bush last year. Then it was due to go on a long tour and the chap playing Tony wasn't available. The tour went very well and the production came to the Donmar for a short run. When it ended, it seemed potty to take it no further so I offered to try and raise the money and find a theatre. With my two co-producers, we've managed to give it a third outing."

How's the experience been? "Bracing. Really satisfying, whipping up the investors, bringing a team together and getting the play on in time. I thought at the beginning, why shouldn't I try it for a couple of shows?"

So there'll be another? "Christopher Luscombe's one-man show, *Half Time*, about actors performing *Hamlet* at an Oxford college, had good notices when it played late nights at the Donmar during *Cabaret*. I co-wrote that and directed it, and we're hoping to mount it again next year."

And then? "First things first."

JEREMY KINGSTON



Rodney Milnes enjoys Welsh National Opera's superb new staging of *Beatrice and Benedict*

# Not a blemish in sight

Contrary to popular belief, it is not a critic's function to find fault, and no critic could be happier than when confronted with a performance of the quality of the Welsh National Opera's new production of Berlioz's *opéra-comique* — which is simply faultless. Their triumph (at the New Theatre, Cardiff) is the greater in that this is one of the trickiest of all pieces on the fringe of the repertoire, an uneasy selection from *Muuh* Ado with, for British audiences, the desirability of substituting Shakespeare for Berlioz's own spoken dialogue.

So first, the WNO text credited to Shakespeare, John Wells and the producer Elijah Moshinsky, is ideal, enough to provide a thread of narrative and some really good jokes, but not so much that we are kept waiting for the music. And Moshinsky has helped his singers to speak the lines with the aplomb of practised actors. So easy is their delivery that the two crafts are barely distinguishable. *Opéra-comique* is made to seem the most natural means of expression in the world.

Equally impressive is the unforced naturalism of Moshinsky's production. He and the company create a real community, eating, drinking, singing, dressing up and having parties. Michael Yeargan's gorgeous set, a sun and moon-drenched Sicilian loggia with a view of Messina beyond, is filled with people in Victorian costumes that are not only beautifully designed (by Dona Gramata) but beautifully worn as well.

So natural and unforced are the comings and goings that you swear there is a grand hall to the left of the stage, and a terrace to the right, with life going on in both. The work that must have gone into



A stunning illusion of reality: Karl Morgan Daymond, Donald Kaasch and Stephen Richardson in *Beatrice*

creating this illusion of reality is beyond imagination.

The cast is without exception superb. Contrary to my autumn preview ten days ago — apologies all round — the title roles are not sung by Ann Murray and Philip Langridge. Murray sadly had to withdraw, and the young mezzo Sara Fulgoni, who was to have shared *Beatrice* with her, is now singing at all perfor-

mances. *Benedict* was always to have been the American tenor Donald Kaasch.

Fulgoni, barely out of college and in her first major assignment for one of the main companies, is an astounding talent. Her velvety tone, steady as a rock, has a radiant sheen to it and is easy throughout the range she also has the technique to sustain Berlioz's long lines. As a

creature of the stage, she is amazingly assured. Great things are to come.

Kaasch, a noted exponent of Rossini tenor roles, similarly has no trouble with the hurdles the composer strews in his path. His is a relaxed, witty vocal performance, and his initially unimpressive appearance complete with a Buffalo Bill hairstyle, is spot on.

Add young Rebecca Evans

(Hero), her soprano steadily filling out with extra warmth, throwing off her showpiece aria — a trill! a trill! — with delicious insouciance, and Patricia Bardon's luscious Ursula not to forget Karl Morgan Daymond's noticeable Claudio — and you have a dream cast. The biggest danger in the piece is the cod composer. Somewhere, all too often about as funny as an open grave, Donald Maxwell, whose comic timing is akin to that of Frankie Howerd, almost steals the show.

With the Berlioz specialist John Nelson in the pit, the seal is set on an evening of rare distinction: the orchestral playing is brilliant, colourful, always clear, always witty, with moments of breathtakingly beautiful soft playing. The show runs until the end of November: don't miss it.

## THEATRE

### Too much room at the circus

The Cherry Orchard  
Leicester. Haymarket

A MOSCOW Art Theatre director and a designer from the Bolshoi put on Chekhov's classic with a cast headed by Susannah York. But one should not get too starry-eyed. Misha Mokeiev's production, though more than passable, has room for improvement. In fact, there is too much room in Valeri Leventail's indoor-outdoor space, with its expanse of funeral marble flooring and cherry orchard, seen through gauze. The aristocratic Gayev family and guests rattle about just too much in the country home to which they have returned.

Lopakhin, the self-made man of poor stock, is rather wooden. Trofimov, the student idealist, is flatly lacking passion. York's Ranyevskaya, in love with her childhood home but still grieving over her drowned little boy, is of course luminously beautiful and pretty sympathetically portrayed. She has moments of ardour but there is too much sweeping about in flowing capes (Miss York's costumes made by Boo Williams).

Circus physicality is deliberately brought in, qualifying Stanislavskian realism and his emphasis on seriousness with which Chekhov disagreed. Jonathan Flinger's Yephikhodov is not just mildly foolish: he is prattling all over the furniture.

Some characters, albeit inconsistently, breach the fourth wall. Charlotta, the female magician (Marry Cruickshank), addresses us like a cabaret artiste, and Dunyasha (Natascha McElhone) jigs about with red-painted cheeks like a crazed puppet.

The ensemble is uneven and the energy comes and goes. However, there are rewarding performances, including Alfred Marks's terrifically gaga Firs; Kenneth Haigh's huggably avuncular but hopeless Gayev; Leslee Udwin's buxomly practical but emotionally cracking Varya; and young Juliette Gruber's restless child-like Anya.

KATE BASSETT

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RECORDINGS: McPartland's homage to Mary Lou Williams; the latest word in Beethoven scholarship; the Carpenters' bandwagon rolls

## Tribute from a queen

JAZZ

When Marian McPartland was the young Margaret Marian Turner, more than half a century ago, it was simply not the done thing for demure, upper-middle-class English girls to think about becoming jazz pianists. Years later, after she had married the American cornet player Jimmy McPartland and landed a steady job in the Hickory House, one of the best clubs on New York's 52nd Street, her relations were still in a state of bemusement.

She recalls that one evening one of her uncles, a knight of the realm and mayor of Windsor no less, came to hear her play while on a business visit. After grimly surveying the club's ample stocks of alcohol, he turned to his niece: "Margaret, does your father know what you're doing?"

Fortunately, McPartland continued to defy family conventions. In the half century since she first crossed the Atlantic, she has joined a select group of British musicians (George Shearing, Victor Feldman and Joe Temperley are among the others) to be accepted on equal terms by the best American players. And in her mid-seventies, at an age when most musicians are content to live off their stock of glittering phrases, she has not lost her appetite for new challenges.

Her tribute to her lamented friend and fellow pianist Mary Lou Williams is the latest in a distinguished series of albums she has made in the Concord label over the past decade and a half. Other "songbook" albums have been dedicated to Duke Ellington's collaborator Billy Strayhorn and (best of all) the saxophonist Benny Carter, while her talents as an unaccompanied soloist were on display when she took part in the acclaimed series of solo recitals recorded at the Maybeck Recital Hall in California.

As McPartland points out, Williams was a musician who transcended gender categories and loose talk of being a "woman pianist". After setting out her wares in the swing era as an arranger and instrumentalist with Andy Kirk's band, the Clouds of Joy, Williams went on to play an influential role in the early years of bebop. A convert to Catholicism, she composed a number of extended religious works in her later years. One of the pieces interpreted by McPartland, "St Martin de Porres", was originally written for a children's choir.



Marian McPartland has not lost her appetite for taking on new challenges

**MARIAN McPARTLAND**  
Plays The Music of  
Mary Lou Williams  
Concord CCD-4605\*\*\*

The most stimulating tribute albums create a synthesis of two artistic temperaments. McPartland is not interested in carbon copies of "Scratchin' in the Gravel" or "Walkin' and Swingin'". Her own keyboard technique, urbane and impressionistic, is very distinct from Williams's bluesier and more aggressive sound.

In a sense, the album is McPartland's second attempt at a portrait of Williams. The first, an astute and unflinching sketch of an emotionally troubled individual can be found in an elegant collection of essays, *All in Good Time*, published by Oxford University Press seven years ago.

The book represents another, less familiar dimension of McPartland, as author and interviewer. For the past 15 years she has been the presenter of an award-winning series of musical encounters, *Piano Jazz*, the longest-run-

ning arts programme on America's public radio network. The format is straightforward: she and her guest each sit at a piano and engage in casual conversation, illustrating points at the keyboard before engaging in duets.

Her remit has extended beyond jazz. Stephen Sondheim was enticed into the studio not so long ago, and when McPartland hosted an informal anniversary concert in June (assisted by Tommy Flanagan, Cleo Laine, John Darkworth and the ex-Blackie sideman James Williams), the classical pianist Ruth Laredo gave an impromptu performance of Rachmaninov.

McPartland may not always be the most probing of interviewers ("I'm not there to cross-examine them," she explains), but as a musician she can strike up a closer relationship with her subjects than a journalist could hope to achieve. (Some of the encounters, including sessions with Bill Evans and Eubie Blake, are available on the Jazz Alliance label, distributed by New Note.)

CLIVE DAVIS

CHAMBER

Hilary Finch

**BRAHMS**  
Complete works for Violin and Piano  
Brainin/Minzi  
Duo CD 015 (available from The Chimes Music Shops, 071-935 1587 and 071-589 9254)\*\*\*

SOMETHING of a curiosity here, and a period performance with a difference. Norbert Brainin, formerly leader of the Amadeus Quartet, has struck out as a soloist in a rare double-CD set in which Brahms's Sonatas for violin and piano are juxtaposed with Joachim's arrangements of his Hungarian Dances.

The sound corresponds to the old-style packaging, with its sepia photograph of Brahms and Joachim in 1885: wise, authoritative interpretations, played with many a moment of fragile intonation and tremulous virtuosity. With the warm, soft-focus piano-playing of Carlo Levi Minzi, Brainin gives a mellow performance of the A major Sonata Op 100 — and one can almost see the aspistras sprouting round the Adagio of the D minor Op 108.

In this Third Sonata's opening movement, Brainin is not concerned primarily to spin a seamless line, nor to give a high-gloss performance: it is the struggle for depth of expression yields a momentary bend or break in the line, then so be it. Brainin's own revision of Joachim's marvellous transcriptions of the Hungarian Dances is made in order to come closer to the intentions of the original piano-duet version: the differences may be

small, but the performances are irresistible in their rigour and idiosyncratic character.

Devotees of the Amadeus and of Brainin will find much to warm their hearts in these performances, and violin fanatics should relish this documentation of a vision and a style of playing which is already becoming a part of musical history.

**MOZART**  
Haydn Quartets K387 & 421  
Quatuor Ysaye  
Decca 440 076-2\*\*\*  
FOR Mozart, the quartets were his six children, confided to the protection of Haydn as "father, guide and friend"; for Haydn they revealed Mozart as "the greatest composer known to me". The Quatuor Ysaye have begun to record the quartets Mozart wrote inspired by and dedicated to Haydn, and these first two, the G major and the D minor, re-create all the delight, impulse and attention to detail of music written not for commission but as personal tribute.

The Ysaye are never attention-seeking or point-making players. Their light-handed, democratic repartee in the K387 Quartet brings to life its flowing movement of dynamic light and shade, and they forge the finest filigree of counterpoint in the finale. For the darker D minor K421 Quartet, their approach is restrained: the first movement could, perhaps, benefit from a touch more ballast, and the Minuet's dotted rhythms could be just a little harder driven. But this is lucid, spirited playing, recorded truthfully and pleasingly in the unobtrusive acoustics of Anjou's beautiful Abbey of Fontevraud.

ORCHESTRAL

Barry Millington

**BEETHOVEN**  
9 Symphonies  
ORR/Gardiner  
Archiv 439 900-2\*\*\*  
HOWEVER well you think you know Beethoven's symphonies, John Eliot Gardiner's new set with the Orchestre Revolutionnaire et Romantique simply has to be heard: it is a triumph in every respect.

To begin with, these performances are based on the latest musicological research. Clive Brown's new critical performing edition of the Fifth Symphony was used, while elsewhere valuable scholarly discoveries by Jonathan Del



Gardiner: revelatory

Mar have been drawn on. This is no mere academic pedantry: time and again the readings uncover details that bring Beethoven's intentions to vibrant life.

The most spectacular example is the finale of the Ninth, where Del Mar and Gardiner argue that Beethoven's metronome marking for the tenor solo, "Froh, wie seine Sonnenfliegen" has been misunderstood, with the result that we have hitherto been hearing the passage at half the intended speed. Gardiner suggests that his bracing tempo — which is

quite startling — also approximates to French Revolutionary military marches. Curiously, Roger Norrington, in his rival set on EMI, argues precisely the same for his more conventional tempo, though his sounds more like a funeral march.

Del Mar (in the excellent booklet) and Gardiner (on a supplementary CD) communicate these and dozens more discoveries with an enthusiasm that forcefully brings home their relevance.

To be fair, a good deal of the scholarship of recent decades is also reflected in Norrington's set, as well as in those of the Hanover Band under Roy Goodman (Nimbus) — for which Del Mar prepared several editions — and of Christopher Hogwood on L'Oiseau-Lyre.

Gardiner has paid gracious tribute to his forerunners, and it does indeed seem that he has benefited from their labours, for as well as being bang up to date with his scholarship, his interpretations are a touch more assured, more convincing than those of his rivals. If one listens, for example, to the finale of the Fifth, Gardiner's choice of tempo and the tautness of his rhythms make his performance just a notch more vibrant, while the first movement of the Seventh also hits a note of ecstatic vigour unequalled in other recordings.

Gardiner's performances were made either at, or in conjunction with, live events (as opposed to Norrington's studio recordings). That may well account for that extra ounce of spontaneity, but surprisingly it is Gardiner's band that also has the edge in terms of technical perfection.

Norrington's performances sometimes have a rawer edge, as befits his more experimental, pioneering approach. All the performances mentioned offer period instruments, of course, which bring out the detail with a freshness and

clarity that is hard to forge these days.

If you already have one of the other period-instrument sets, there is no urgent need to replace it. But if you are looking for state of the art scholarship informing exhilarating, revelatory performances, Gardiner's is the set to go for.

EARLY MUSIC

Stephen Pettitt

**LOVE'S ILLUSION:**  
Music from the Montpellier Codex

Anonymous IV  
Harmonia Mundi  
HMU 907109\*\*\*

ANONYMOUS IV, who make their first tour of Britain at the end of the month, are four American female singers who have lately been gaining much attention and surprisingly voluminous record sales with their ethereal performances of medieval music.

This release is a beguiling example of what they have achieved. It consists of a selection of pieces, all anonymous, from the 13th-century Montpellier Codex, rightly described in Susan Hellauer's excellent notes as "the richest single source of 13th-century French polyphony". Modern sensibilities might have trouble going along entirely with her assertion that the medieval motet at its most extreme and elaborate creates an effect unparalleled until the ensemble finales of Mozart's operas; but after hearing this record one understands both her enthusiasm and her point.

The ensemble's singing has a sensual kind of purity; that is quite right, since these works are about that medieval obsession of idealised love. Nothing about their readings is rough-edged. Delicacy prevails to the extent that even the passages of rapid voice-exchange (hocketing) are like gently swinging pendulums rather than the more usual games of catch-the-hot-potato. And lest the ear should be too often confused by the simultaneous texts, some songs are first given in reduced form to highlight one particular voice. Others have drones and doublings added, as surely the original performers would have felt free to do in an age where adaptability in all things was a necessity.

**THE SPIRIT OF ENGLAND AND FRANCE:**  
Music for court and church from the later Middle Ages, volume 1  
Gothic Voices/Page  
Hyperion CDA 66739\*\*\*

THIS disc takes a completely different approach from both the one reviewed above and Gothic Voices' previous efforts. It is the first of a promised series exploring the riches of French and English music between the 12th and 15th centuries. Beyond that there is no theme, nor any concentration on a particular repertoire. The collection is simply and refreshingly one of good pieces.

Here Christopher Page has divided his programme into two, the first devoted to the richly sonorous three and four-part works of the late 14th and early 15th centuries, and the second to conduct settings of Latin rhetorical verse — and motets from the late 12th and early 13th centuries. For the most part the pieces are anonymous. Named composers include Machaut, Matteo da Perugia, Pykyn (his only known work, the four-voice *virelai* "Plaisance, or tost") and the Englishman Cooke (a marvellously rich *Credo* from the *Old Hall Manuscript*) from the later period; and a possible attribution to Perotin for the vigorous *conductus* "Presul nostri temporis" from the earlier period.

As usual unaccompanied solo male voices bear the burden; and they blend beautifully, forging even the jagged lines of polytextual motets into poised elegance.

Two tiny gripes: the notes could be fuller, and the instrumental interludes — three *estampies* excellently played by Pavlo Bezostuk on medieval fiddle — are not really needed. Why not one or two more vocal pieces instead?

OPERA

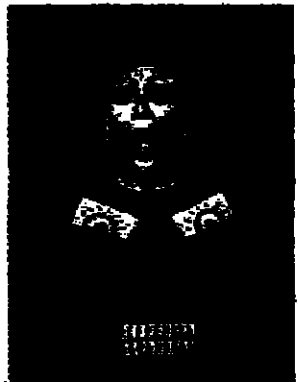
John Higgins

**CARNIVAL!**  
Sumi Jo/English Chamber Orchestra/Bonyne  
Decca 440 679-2\*\*\*

THE shadow of the conductor Richard Bonyne lies long over this recital disc from Sumi Jo. Only he could have devised such a collection of French coloratura arias, mainly from works long forgotten even though their composers are still within the public consciousness.

Sumi Jo's soprano has the same bell-like quality of the young Sutherland and — her detractors will point out — the same carelessness over pronouncing anything that looks like a consonant. The words are rarely comprehensible, but in many cases they are scarcely worth comprehending. What matters is the glory of the soprano voice, technique and the ability to show off.

Dazzling display is Sumi Jo's chief stock in trade and



Sumi Jo: dazzling display

Bonyne, conducting the English Chamber Orchestra with his usual adroitness, is careful to choose songs by composers who knew how to flatter a leading lady. Ambroise Thomas was one of them and his "Song d'une nuit d'été", which has nothing to do with Titania and Oberon and all to do with Shakespeare and his relations with Queen Elizabeth, provides a glittering piece about the burdens of state. They cannot have been all that heavy if the soprano is encouraged to sing like this.

Canary-fanciers will be pleased to find the "Chanson du canari" by Adolphe Adam, better known for *Giselle*. Indeed, birds and insects feature in other items, echoed by the flute as well as the soprano. A stately Grtry aria is the one item out of place in an otherwise 19th-century selection of lollipops, forgotten by almost everyone but Bonyne, and well worth hearing.

POP ALBUMS

David Sinclair

**SINEAD O'CONNOR**  
Universal Mother  
Ensign 8 30549\*\*

THE tendency for pop stars to parade their socially maladjusted backgrounds as a validation of their art may have reached its apogee with the American grunge bands, but Sinead O'Connor was way ahead of the game. Having chronicled the misery of her own dysfunctional family life for many years, she casts the net much wider on *Universal Mother*, embracing the distress of her entire island nation — "I see the Irish/As a race like a child/That got itself bashed in the face" — and indeed, on "All Babies", the pain of each individual the whole world over.

Her singing ranges from a little-girl-lost whisper, as on a peculiarly affecting version of Kurt Cobain's "All Apologies", to the tortured wail of "Fire On Babylon".

But her best shot on this rather exhausting collection is "Famine", a rap on the unpromising subject of the Irish potato famine of 1845-47 intercut with snatches from the chorus of the Beatles' "Eleanor Rigby". "We're suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder," she proclaims against a grumbling hip-hop bass riff.

Well, it is one way of breaking free of the old moon/june routine.

**VARIOUS ARTISTS**  
If I Were A Carpenter  
A&M 540 258\*

A HIGHLY suspect exercise in pop revisionism, this is a collection of songs made famous by squeaky-clean, 1970s pop icons the Carpenters as re-

interpreted by various modern rock acts with vaguely "alternative" credentials. American Music Club, Shonen Knife, Redd Kross and Babes In Toyland are among the posers.

POP ALBUMS

David Sinclair

**IAN McNABB**  
"Go Into The Light"  
This Way Up WAT3633\*\*

ALTHOUGH not the best track from Ian McNabb's album, *Head Like A Rock*, "Go Into The Light" is a typically rousing essay in self-belief. Built on the funky rhythmic foundations laid by Joseph "Zigaboo" Modeliste (former drummer with the Meters), the song blossoms into a full-tilt blast of gospel harmonies, wailing saxophone and swirling organ.



McNabb: rousing self-belief

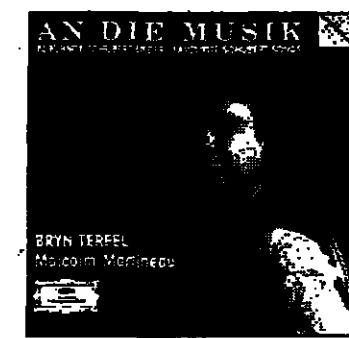
**NOVA MOB**  
"Old Empire"  
World Service 187336\*\*

NOVA Mob is the band led by Grant Hart, formerly drummer with Hüsker Dü, and now alternating between guitar, drums and vocals on his own account.

As one would expect, the bias on this impressive four-track single is towards fierce, guitar-driven rock, but with a full-bodied melodic tang. Hart makes a surprisingly convincing singer, and the title track in particular is swept along by a mood of energetic, American punk-pop fire.

\* Worth hearing  
\*\* Worth considering  
\*\*\* Worth buying

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To demonstrate top spin, consider the impact caused by two snooker balls, which are the same diameter and hit each other in straight lines. Even a snooker ball with back spin gives the ball a hit instant top spin. Following the same principle, we designed our Advanced Topspin Putter in a cylindrical shape and in the exact same diameter as a golf ball. So striking a golf ball with the Advanced Topspin Putter gives your ball instant automatic top spin - for the perfect putt. So where you aim the ball is where it's going to go.

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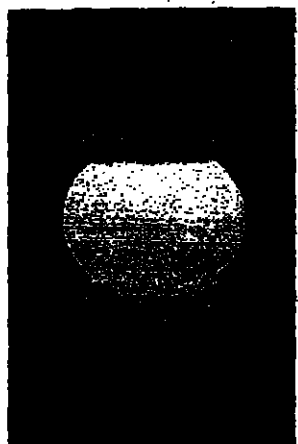
WEEKEND SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 17 1994

# SHOPPING

9

Decorative glass has never been more fashionable. This season's look ranges from rich, jewelled colours to muted, antiqued styles

## Time to cut a dash with the glass of '94



Trail d'union Parisian glass lamps when the lamp is on. From top, Amphora lamp, £59; Komon lamp, £92; Narcissi lamp, £65. All from Purves & Purves

When the new Glass Gallery at the V&A opened in April with a display of more than 6,000 objects spanning the history of glass from 2,000 BC to the present, it aroused enthusiasm for decorative glasswork. This was heightened by the gallery's innovative and dramatic backdrop of Danny Lane's glass balustrade, made up of 140 pillars and 6,000 stacked squares of green glass.

For anyone with an interest in contemporary glassware, The Glasshouse, in Islington, is a must. Celebrating its 25th anniversary this year, it is now owned and run by four glass designers, Annette Meech, Christopher Williams (both Royal College of Art graduates), Fleur Tookey and David Taylor, who have been working together since 1977.

The Glasshouse combines a gallery and workshop, so you can watch the glass being blown and see the furnaces, molten glass, blowing irons and lahes. Small groups and school trips are welcome to look around, although they do ask that you call first to arrange a time.

The glass on sale varies in style and method of production, but it is all hand made and hand finished. Each designer produces one-off works of art and limited edition ranges and the prices vary accordingly. For example, David Taylor's curving bottle with five coloured stoppers piercing the bottle-neck, can cost up to £3,000, while a swirling scent bottle by Fleur Tookey costs £58.75, and one of Annette Meech's coloured glass sea shells and star fish starts from £4.93. All the glass can be ordered by mail and some ranges are available from Primavera in Cambridge, the Glass Barn in Newent, and Port Cullis in Gateshead.



Fleur Tookey demonstrates her craft at The Glasshouse

in County Kilkenny with "the Friesian calves looking in through the window".

Mr Leadbetter concentrates mostly on glasses, decanters and jugs, but he also makes candlesticks, bowls, vases and paperweights. His design philosophy is to "keep it simple and straight forward and let the glass dictate the natural shape".

The Jerpoint "Kilfane" wine goblets are ideal for people who don't want to drink from cut glass or hold spindly stems. All his glasses are solid, stylishly simple and weighty. Prices start from £14 for a port glass to £19.50 for a wine goblet.

Think Art Deco glass, think René Lalique. Although René Lalique died in 1945, his glassmaking tradition and design was continued by his son Marc, until his death in 1977.

Since then, Lalique's granddaughter Marie-Claude has headed the company.

Next Wednesday, an exhibition of around a 100 perfume flacons by Lalique, most from a private collection never before shown in public, opens at the Lalique boutique in London's New Bond Street. The boutique still sells many of René Lalique's original designs, including his classic perfume flacon "Clairefontaine" with its delicate lily of the valley stopper (£165). Also popular is a range of jewellery designed by Marie-Claude, which includes fabulous bulbous glass rings and bracelets, available in 14 colours including amethyst, lime green, sapphire, lilac and amber and ranges in price from £99 for a ring to £425 for a glass link bracelet.

Glass rings of a less conventional kind are made by Pamina, an American jewellery designer who lives in London. Pamina picks up bits

of shattered car windscreens from the road and then casts the glass with silver to make exotic aquamarine rings. The idea is original and the result is chunky and chic and each ring is unique. Prices range from £125 to £150.

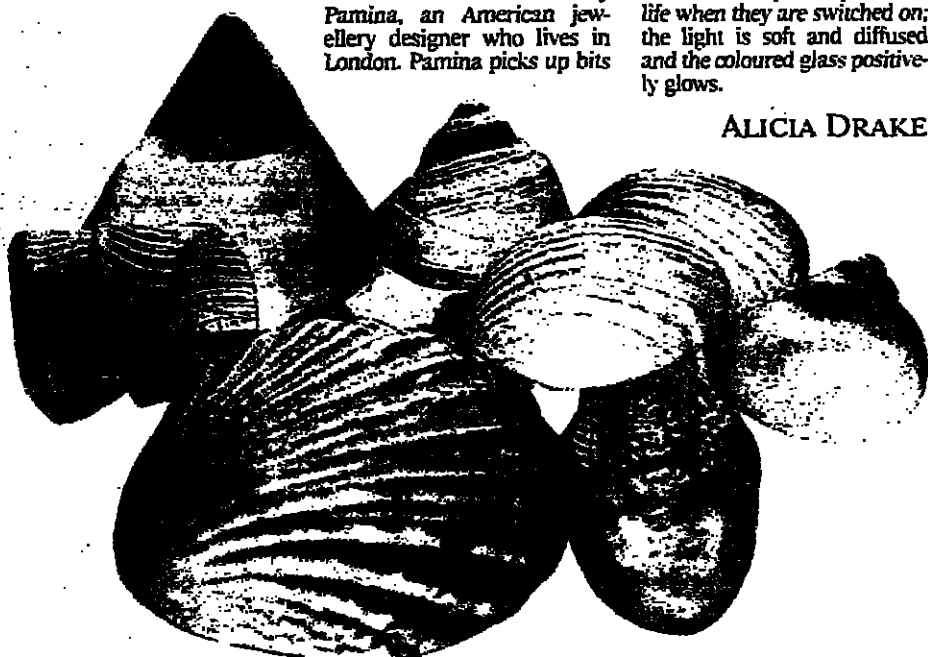
Liberty, champion of the decorative arts, boasts an extensive and fashionable stock of glass objects. Glass buyer Kerry Daley jets between New York and Paris and back looking for the latest trends and most desirable glass.

Ms Daley says "antiqued" is the favoured look for glass in the home this season. "All the pop-art colours and the fashion brights have gone," she says. "We're seeing the arrival of much richer, jewel-like glass or alternatively, a muted antiqued look."

The sharp colour of Murano glass, from the glassmaking island of Venice, suits this taste perfectly, as does the less expensive main finish of Iranian glass. "Sherecan" and "Caspian" are extremely popular. Both types of Iranian glass come in two basic colours, a deep turquoise or a vivid green and cost from £5.25 for a goblet to £19.95 for the carafes and decanters and £29.95 for a large vase.

Purves & Purves in London sells all manner of avant-garde furniture and furnishings and its glass selection includes candlesticks, mirrors, shelves, bowls and table-tops. Most interesting is its range of "Trail d'union" Parisian glass lamps. Designed as abstract shapes in pale colours and priced from £59, these lamps really come to life when they are switched on; the light is soft and diffused and the coloured glass positively glows.

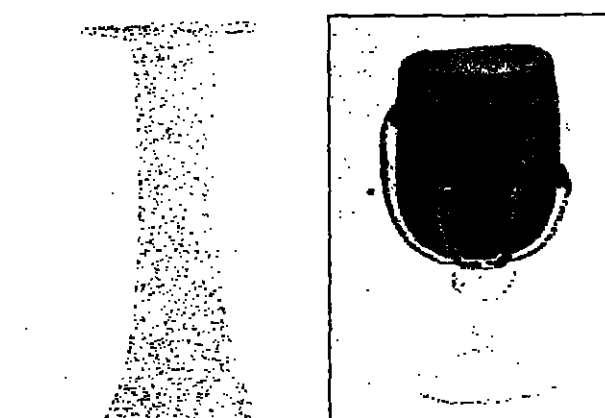
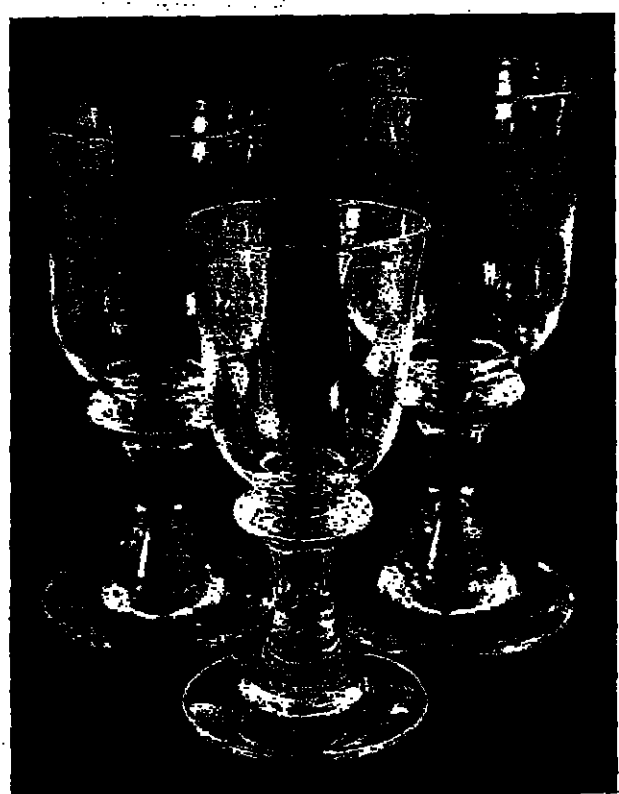
ALICIA DRAKE



Above: A selection of Annette Meech's coloured glass sea shells, from The Glasshouse, from £4.93 each.

Left: Jerpoint goblets, from £18, available from the Jerpoint Glass Studio or from Wedding List Services and David Mellor.

Right: red face vase, £176.50 from The Glasshouse.



Above left: glassware, from £12.95, from Liberty. Below: a selection of vases and bottles, from left, £19.95, £135, £85, also from Liberty



Above: bulbous glass rings, from £99, part of a jewellery range designed by Marie-Claude Lalique

Above: a sample of the glass candlesticks, from £34.15, available from The Glasshouse

### Where to buy your glass

□ Pamina Jewellery is available from Harvey Nichols, London SW1 (071-355 5000) or mail order from Pamina (071-352 5729).

□ Lalique Jewellery and objects are available from the Lalique boutique, 162 New Bond Street, London W1 (071-499 8228). The Lalique perfume flacon exhibition is open from September 21 to October 7.

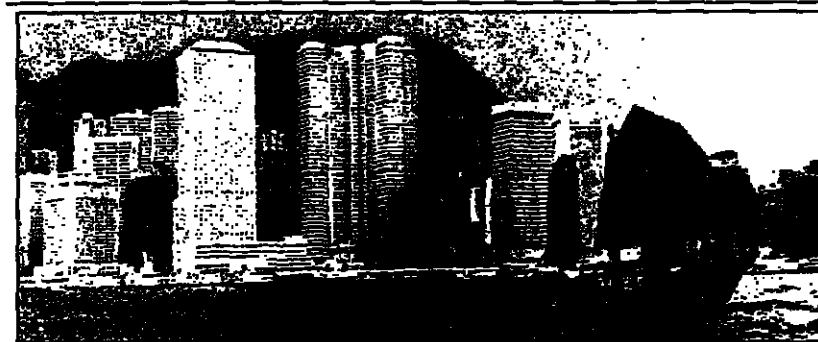
□ Trail d'union lamps from Purves & Purves, 80, 81 & 83 Tottenham Court Road, London W1 (071-580 8223), plus mail order.

□ Murano, Sherecan and Caspian glass is available from Liberty, Regent Street, London W1 (071-734 1254). Mail order available to destinations worldwide.

□ Jerpoint goblets and tableware are available from Jerpoint Glass Studio, Stoneyford, Co. Kilkenny, Irish Republic (010 353 5624 350). Stockists include Wedding List Services (071-978 1118) and David Mellor (071-730 4259).

□ Glass candlesticks, shells, perfume flacons and profile vases are available from The Glasshouse, 21 Saint Albans Place, London N1 (071-359 8162; fax 359 9485). Opening hours: Tuesday-Friday 10am-6pm, Saturday 11am-6pm. Mail order also available. Other stockists of Glasshouse wares are: Primavera, 10 King's Parade, Cambridge CB2 0223 357708; The Glass Barn, 31 Culver St, Newent, Glos GL18 0452 830528; Port Cullis, 7 The Arcade, Metro Centre, Gateshead NE11 691-460 6345.

## THE TIMES TRAVEL OFFER



### FIVE NIGHTS IN HONG KONG FROM JUST £589

Here is a golden opportunity to have an excellent, value for money holiday in one of the world's most exciting destinations. The Times has secured a limited number of places for a five-night stay in Hong Kong organised by Silverbird Travel in association with Cathay Pacific Airways. You can choose from one of three hotels, all of which represent a considerable saving on the usual price of an inclusive holiday to Hong Kong.

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#### Here is your choice of hotels

● The Metropole. Located in Kowloon and a good medium class hotel. All 487 rooms are well furnished and have bathroom, mini-bar and T.V. with in-house movies. In addition to the Tung Dynasty Chinese restaurant, Western food is served in the Palm Court and the Terrace. Other facilities include the Sip Sip bar, with live music, a rooftop pool with snack bar and a courtesy shuttle bus to the nearest M.T.R. station (about 12 mins walk). Prices: Nov 19 £549 (Single room supplement £200); Nov 26 £619 (Single room supplement £180); Dec 3 £599 (Single room supplement £165).

● The Park Lane. Situated on Hong Kong Island in the Causeway Bay area, this well known hotel is an ideal base from which to explore the Crown Colony. There is an M.T.R. station nearby and myriad shops and restaurants within a few minutes walk. All 450 rooms are well furnished with bathroom, mini-bar, T.V. and in-house video. Other facilities include a coffee shop, 2 restaurants and a health centre. Prices: Nov 19 £579 (Single room supplement £240); Nov 26 £639 (Single room supplement £180); Dec 3 £599 (Single room supplement £150).

● The Kowloon Shangri-La. One of Hong Kong's best established de-luxe hotels within easy reach of the shops and restaurants of Kowloon. The 719 guestrooms are beautifully appointed with satellite T.V., in-house videos and mini-bar. A wide range of facilities are available including 8 restaurants and bars and a well equipped health club and pool. Prices: Nov 19, Nov 26 £549 (Single room supplement £399); Dec 3 £759 (Single room supplement £389).

All prices include return flights with Cathay Pacific, return transfers between airport and hotel and 5 nights accommodation on a room-only basis. Insurance is optional, premium £35 (if not taken alternative cover must be arranged). Departure Tax from U.K. (effective from 1 Nov.) £10. Departure Tax, payable on departure from Hong Kong, \$250HK (approx. £450).

For full details and a booking form for this superb holiday offer, telephone Silverbird Travel on 081-475 9090 quoting The Times special offer or return the coupon below to: The Times Hong Kong Travel Offer, Silverbird Travel, 4 Northfields Prospect, London, SW18 1PE.

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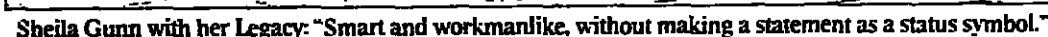
Once upon a time a woman bought a Subaru. She liked it so much she is now on her fourth one

My last Subaru, an F8000, was clocked up about 50,000 miles when I bought it and near on 90,000 when I part-exchanged it. That's not particularly high. One of my sisters, who negotiates mountain tracks in northern California, has done 185,000 miles in hers — with its first engine. Hence I was not deterred to find that my new one already had 58,000 on the odometer. It had been owned and regularly serviced by a local vicar. Although one can't assume that clerics drive better than anyone else, I thought it unlikely that he used the car to tow heavy trailers. Some salesmen poked at my old one with visible disdain, noitriding

The pick-up is definitely surer and stronger than on my previous Subaru. Consequently the petrol consumption is also higher, although this may be better when I have mastered the "economy" button on the automatic transmission when cruising. Previous models had a lever system for going into 4WD, the Legacy has a full-time 4WD system. There are also manual gears if necessary. All my models have sounded slightly like well-tuned tractors, although each one less so. Oddly, I find it comforting.

On creature comforts, this one is as real as put above its predecessors. As I'm as likely to be stuck in London

On creature control is, this one is a real cut above its predecessors. As I'm as likely to be stuck in London



The Legacy looks smart and workmanlike, without making a statement as a status symbol. I like its solidness. And, when the roads are choc-a-bloc with Volvos and BMWs, there is something rather distinctive about Subaru.

Apart from the time I backed into an "irreversible" post, my Subaru

**Subaru Legacy 4WD 1991**  
Price: £6,000 plus previous model in part-exchange (New generation Legacy automatic £20,040 on the road, manual £19,040).  
Engine: 4-cylinder, 16-valve, 2.2 litre GX.  
Features: turret-shaped roof, extra luggage space, power windows, power steering, central locking, 10-speaker stereo, air conditioning, 10 air vents, height control.  
Performance: 0-60mph in 11.8 sec. Top speed 114-mph (manual, 120mph).  
Insurance Group: 4 at full consent. Consumption: 38.7 at 50mph

**Elizabeth Peacock: dreaming of owning a Jaguar XJ6**

**Elizabeth Peacock**

ANDREW PIERCE

ANDREW PIERCE

[illegible]



One of Britain's biggest exhibitions ever opens on Tuesday:

# Technological treats on show for a nation that loves electronics

We like to kid ourselves about technology. It seems there is something slightly un-British about admitting that we adore electronic gadgets that beep and flash and whirr, occasionally to some real purpose, but often for no good reason other than a little diversion and novelty.

This is pure sham. In truth, Britain is, in the language of the high-tech industry, the "early adopter" of Europe. More than a decade ago we were the first to think of computers as consumer devices. Even today, we possess the largest number of home personal computers (PCs) outside Germany, some 2.2 million of them; twice as many as you will find in French homes.

The high-tech analyst, Dataquest, predicts that the 57 million citizens of France will still be stuck around the two million PC mark in 1998 when we, with a similar-size population, have double that figure.

But why should we be surprised? Could you imagine a French Clive Sinclair? Do you see the average Gallic businessman sitting on the *Métro* trying to make his mobile phone work?

The British love all things electronic — calculators, keyboards, cameras, computers, and even ingenious little in-car

entertainment systems whose woofers and tweeters, when parked overnight in a city street, have the useful life of an exhausted mayfly.

The odd thing is that in Britain it used to be impossible to see all this electronic wizardry in one spot. Then, last September, along came the Live '93 exhibition, putting everything under one roof at Olympia, London.

Next week sees the Live '94 show, three times bigger and filling the whole of Earls Court. If the forecasts are right, it will attract about 200,000 people, against last year's 141,000, making it the third biggest public exhibition in the country after the Motor Show and the Ideal Home Exhibition, and putting our national priorities firmly in order: homes, cars, gizmos.

Live '94, in the words of the organiser, News International, the publisher of *The Times*, is designed to be "the annual celebration of consumer electronics". What that means is that the public has a chance to try the electronic products planned for this Christmas, talk to the manufacturer about them and then go away and

mult the idea over without having an over-eager salesman at your elbow.

Several manufacturers will launch products never seen before in Britain. Apple is unveiling a new personal computer which can display live television pictures while you work or play, while games

sound, that can be used with an ordinary television set.

Nintendo will have up to 300 free-play consoles with the releases planned to top the charts this Christmas.

Toshiba will launch a range of video cassette recorders which, it says, have 30 per cent fewer parts than conventional models and more features for satellite and easier recording.

Those with homes littered with separate remote controls for television sets, videos and radios should look out for the Acomex Control Plus, which uses a single handset.

Canon will show an innovative camcorder which uses the movement of the human eye to focus the image. Alpine, the in-car systems company, will have a Lamborghini

Diablo on its stand equipped with a global positioning system which can show your position on a map to within 100 metres, anywhere in the world.

You will also find inside advice on a wide range of topics at a series of seminars throughout the event, covering computers, games, multimedia, mobile communications and satellite television.

Those keen on the promised

boom in home entertainment hardware should visit the Home Cinema Promenade, where a group of manufacturers will be demonstrating and discussing the future of high quality sound and video.

The sound specialist Dolby will be giving a daily talk, between 2pm and 3.30 pm, showing how sound effects have been used to tell the story in different films.

Alongside the electronic stars of Live '94 will be some more familiar human ones. Phil Collins will be among the judges of bands in the Yamaha/TES National Youth Rock and Pop awards: Capital Radio will run nine hours of entertainment each day, with music from Toyah Wilcox, Dinah Carroll and the Steve Gibbons Band; Jeremy Beadle will present his game show in the TV Times studio from Thursday to Saturday.

With more than 300 exhibitors, among them the best-known names in the consumer electronics world, the show will be a chance to see, hear and use the technology which will be hot on the Christmas shopping lists.

If you are agonising between a multimedia PC and a digital mobile phone, Live '94 is the best place to be.

HARRY DAVIDSON

## Exhibition fact file

LIVE '94, Earls Court, west London, runs from Tuesday, Sept 20 to Sunday, Sept 25. Open daily 9.30am-7.30pm; late opening Thursday, Friday and Saturday until 8pm. £4 weekdays, £7 weekends, £16 for family any day. Tickets from London Underground stations or at the door on the day. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Telephone hotline giving show details, 0891 500103 (39p a minute cheap rate, 49p a minute at all other times).

fans will have their first chance in Britain to see the long-awaited £400 3DO console — the latest entertainment console format that uses a fast video chip and promises new levels of games realism. Next year, there will be an add-on cartridge for the 3DO which will allow it to play back films based on another new idea. Video CD — compact discs, which contain pictures and

## The cinema comes to the living room

Video CDs and hi-fi sound: all you need is the popcorn

If you cannot get to the cinema, why not bring the cinema into your living room? This is the concept behind one of the fastest-growing sectors in consumer electronics.

Home cinema systems use large-screen televisions, hi-fi sound, video recorders and surround-sound units to try to recreate many of the sound and picture effects seen and heard in a film theatre.

The idea of home cinema is not new, but the early systems were very expensive, difficult to install and often gave disappointing results.

Today's systems are much cheaper, and installation can involve little more than plugging a television into a mains socket.

Home cinema will play a large part at the Live '94 exhibition, with all the latest developments on display, including a demonstration of a new type of higher quality widescreen television. This will give visitors a chance to see Channel 4's first broadcast in the new format.

The driving force behind home cinema has been a surround-sound system developed by Dolby, the Californian audio company. It is a system that has become standard and was first used in cinemas in the mid-1970s.

As a result, many stereo pre-recorded video tape and discs, and an increasing number of television broadcasts have Dolby Surround.

Television companies such as Granada, Yorkshire, BSkyB and Carlton regularly transmit films in Dolby Surround that can be heard by those with the right equip-

ment. Manufacturers such as Toshiba, Hitachi, Sony, Grundig and Panasonic sell television sets with built-in Dolby decoders, from about £700, and include extra speakers which can be placed around the room.

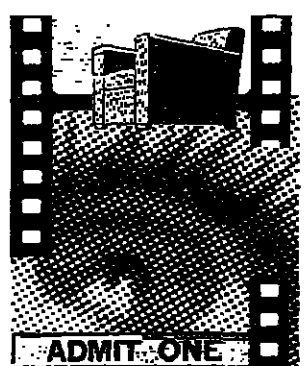
If living room space is tight, a system called Dolby Stereo 3 can help. This uses three front-mounted speakers to re-create the sound effects.

There are hi-fi amplifiers and mini audio systems with Dolby surround-sound as well as Dolby satellite television receivers. Many of these systems use an enhanced version of Dolby Surround, known as Pro-Logic, which has additional speakers and electronics to improve the surround-sound effects.

A number of hi-fi speaker companies, such as Bose, Celestion and Tannoy, sell speakers specially designed for home cinema systems.

Some of the most dedicated home cinema enthusiasts prefer watching laser discs rather than pre-recorded video tapes because they give higher quality. These look like giant CDs and can each store up to two hours of a film.

Companies such as Sony, Philips and Pioneer sell a range of laser disc players,



some of which enable discs designed for the North American television system to be watched on European sets — another reason why the laser disc is popular with some home cinema fans, as films often appear on American laser discs months before they are available in Britain.

The hot topic among enthusiasts at the moment, however, is Video CD: compact discs that look identical to the audio version but that can store an hour of vision as well as sound.

Players which can operate the new discs are about to go on sale and 100 Video CD titles should be available by Christmas.

One advantage over laser discs is price. While a laser

disc typically costs about £30, most Video CD titles are expected to sell at about £17, with the cheapest at under £10. Although Video CD's picture quality is not quite as good as laser disc, it is better than videotape and discs do not wear out.

This autumn, Panasonic is launching an £800 audio system which includes a Video CD player — Philips will launch a similar system next year — that can hold up to seven discs.

"In a few years audio-only CD decks will be a rare sight," predicts Andy Clarkson, editor of *Home Entertainment* magazine.

One area that will feature heavily at the Live '94 exhibition is widescreen television, where the screen shape is similar to a cinema screen. These sets have been on sale for some years now but sales have been disappointing, not least because there are few widescreen pre-recorded tapes and discs, and, until next week, no widescreen television broadcasts.

But the picture is about to change with the arrival of a new television system called PAL plus — an enhanced version of the PAL television system used in most of

Europe, which provides widescreen pictures and high quality sound. From next week Channel 4 is to start showing some broadcasts in widescreen format and is planning to transmit 500 hours of them by the end of next year.

The first such broadcast by Channel 4 will be shown on widescreen sets at the exhibition.

One alternative to using a wider screen to simulate cinema in the home is to make the pictures you watch much bigger by using a colour projector which can sit on a coffee table and beam pictures on to screens measuring up to 6ft diagonally.

These projectors use tiny liquid-crystal units rather than bulky picture tubes. LCD projectors are small enough to fit on a coffee table and can display pictures that are more than six feet across, when measured diagonally.

The snag is that the projectors are not cheap: the Sharp version, for example, costs £1,800.

If you are looking for the ultimate in home entertainment and money is no object, you may consider investing in a THX home cinema system. THX is a standard set by Lucas Film, the company set up by George Lucas, the director of *Star Wars*.

THX systems use high quality cabling and components and are the closest thing to having a real cinema in your home. But here price is even more of a problem: a de luxe system from JBL costs more than £27,000.

GEORGE COLE

## Power players rule at home

New games, business and education packages demand ever-cleverer PCs

Coming out of the technological closet by admitting that you own and use a personal computer at home no longer provokes the amused reaction that it used to.

At the beginning of the 1980s, people who owned a home PC were generally regarded as nerds. Today, the enlightened PC buyer is still likely to keep his or her hard-won experience quiet, but for a different reason. The moment anyone now lets on that they have not only acquired a PC but mastered it, they will immediately be bombarded with pleas for detailed advice.

The eyes of the computer-literate instantly glaze over when they hear those dread words, "I was thinking of

buying a PC and ...". With good reason.

For there is no ideal PC any more than there is an ideal book or hi-fi system. It all depends on what you and your family want to do with the machine, how much you are willing to spend, and how you want it to fit into your home.

Today's PCs are no longer cut-down versions of the real thing. They are often more powerful than office machines, mainly because the home user wants fancy features, such as multimedia sound, graphics and CD-Rom drives, that businesses can do without.

Home PC users like to claim that they use their PCs for business, education and reference. But what the British generally do is play games.

Find a leisure activity and somewhere you will be able to match it to a computer application, though increasingly it will be one that demands that you buy a multimedia machine with speakers, a sound card and, preferably, a CD-Rom drive — the computer version of the compact disc.

PC-users can now also watch broadcast television on their computer screens. New machines from Apple and Packard Bell are among those with TV card options. They will put a small live TV picture on your screen while you work or play, and take you into the teletext pages too. This may seem a clever idea looking for a purpose, but at least one British company has found an application. Updata Software is about to launch a package which will watch the prices of your share portfolio on teletext and give you a free report on the day's trading after each close.

While games may be the most popular PC use, research suggests that the driving force behind booming home sales is education. Parents want their children to be familiar with computers and are worried

about the job prospects of any child who does not know their way around the keyboard.

Education software is a vast and expanding market. You can buy packages designed to help pre-school children learn to read and count, creativity



applications for writing and drawing, and a host of reference material, from multimedia encyclopaedias on CD-Rom to specialist titles that offer virtual reality tours of famous art galleries.

The educational possibilities might best be described as highly promising, with occasional lapses in concentration. There are some very good

products around, such as two rival multimedia encyclopaedias, Encarta and Grolier's.

There is also an unenvying amount of pure rubbish, most of which you are expected to buy unseen, since there is rarely the chance to try anything before you pay.

After games and education, most of today's PC owners use their machines for purely practical things.

New PCs now often include free integrated packages which bundle word processor, spreadsheet, database and graphics applications together into a single easy-to-use unit. The best ones, such as Microsoft Works and Claris Works, are often all the practical software even a small business might need.

Whatever machine you buy, make sure it is adequate to cope with the software just around the corner. Many PCs still come with only four megabytes of internal memory which is simply inadequate. At least eight megabytes is sensible, coupled with the biggest hard disc and the fastest processor you can afford.

HARRY DAVIDSON



a cornucopia of the brightest and best innovations in home entertainment

...on Tuesday  
treats  
ation  
onics

An hour into your half-hour journey and there you are, still edging forward in what's laughingly called the fast lane. It's a frustration we've all suffered, but for some it becomes an opportunity to relax and indulge in their favourite music. The car radio is no longer merely the thing you switch on for the news or to play the children's tape on the way to the coast.

Increasingly, the quality of hi-fi systems in cars is surpassing what the average person has at home and it is not difficult to understand why. After all, have you ever considered how long you spend in your car, and wouldn't it be nice if you could use the wasted hours to listen to that lovely hi-fi music you bought a few years ago?

When you do get the chance at home, how long is it before someone suggests that the neighbours may not share your taste in music? But at low volume, concert hall realism evaporates.

Listening to music the way you want to at home can be an antisocial pastime but out on the road it's just you, your car and your music.

Such is the popularity of in-car stereo systems that shows such as Live '94 have a whole section devoted to them. Since Live '94 is the kind of show where exhibitors are hoping to meet new faces, they will not be expecting you to know much about the subject and will be delighted to ease you into it.

But as the show will demonstrate, the latest car stereos offer more than just music. How would you like the gift of being able to dodge those traffic snarl-ups?

The latest thing in car radios is RDS, a system which uses computer circuitry in the radio to decode data sent silently along with the radio transmission. This allows you to listen to the radio, a cassette tape or CD and yet never miss a traffic announcement.

Just as the bulletin is about to be sent, a button is pressed back at whichever radio station happens to be local to the area you're driving through and a signal is sent to your radio which tells it to return or temporarily pause the tape or CD.

Up comes the message warning of traffic problems, and then the radio automatically returns to whatever you were listening to before.

You don't even have to be listening to the stereo system — it will automatically cut in at a preset volume level, provide the bulletin and then switch back to silence.

Some RDS-equipped radios even have a facility to record traffic messages before you set out on your journey. Having

Tune in, turn on, and miss out the tailbacks

The latest car stereos provide unrivalled sound quality — and some can even help you to avoid traffic jams



climbed into your car, you can replay the messages which are stored on a micro-chip. There is enough memory to store half a dozen or so messages, after which the oldest message is erased to clear space for a new one.

RDS also provides for the radio to tune in automatically to the transmitter giving the stronger signal, so there is no need to retune as you pass from one Radio 2 transmitter to the next.

Some RDS radios also have a feature that allows the radio to search automatically for stations by programme type, such as news, current affairs or classical.

So not only can today's car stereo systems give pleasure through music, but features such as RDS have simplified operation, improved performance and even help get you home on time.

But as car stereos become more valuable one serious concern remains — security. Manufacturers have worked hard to counter the fear that a desirable car stereo system can get stolen.

Security codes have been in use for some years but better security ideas have recently been marketed in the form of the coded key-card, which must be inserted before the set

will power up; the quick-release bracket, which allows the entire set to be removed, and the detachable front panel, which is currently the favoured anti-theft device. The panel is small, allowing it to be detached and placed in your pocket, leaving in the car only an unusable box of electronics, often with a flashing LED to warn the would-be thief before he smashes the window.

But of course these safeguards only serve to protect the car stereo system and every car should be fitted with a good quality alarm and immobiliser.

You may find your insurance company offers a discount if you fit a recommended security system, so it's worth checking with them before visiting your dealer.

On the subject of where to buy, I wonder how many readers are aware that there is almost certainly at least one specialist supplier and installer of car stereo and car security systems in their town. You can also try your car dealer, but you may well find better advice, a wider choice and keener prices from a specialist.

Unless your car is quite old or was bought with absolutely no options, it is likely to have had a stereo system fitted at the factory. These have improved a great deal in recent years but the quality of factory-fitted systems does still vary considerably.

The big difference between the majority of factory-fitted stereo systems and those installed by a specialist tends to be in the speakers — not just the quality of them but where and how well they are installed.

When it comes to the finer details of the car, the manufacturers are more concerned with being able to list as many selling points as they can, as inexpensively as they can.

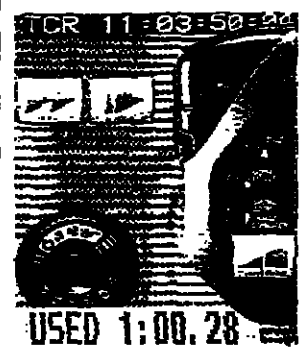
The words "Six-speaker CD audio system with RDS radio" look impressive in the glossy sales brochure but, despite the inclusion of a CD player, they give no reliable guide to how the system will sound.

The subject of car stereos has its share of confusing terms, jargon which can cause the newcomer to feel uneasy. Thankfully, there are a couple of specialist magazines which cover the subject and are available from larger newsagents.

And if a visit to the Live '94 exhibition does end up with you rushing off to a specialist supplier and installer of car stereo you should look for the CRISP sign, which is a quality assurance system backed by the industry's independent retailers' association.

KEVIN O'BYRNE

## Say cheese to the latest wizardry



Innovations in cameras and camcorders mean nobody has any excuse for taking bad pictures

George Eastman, founder of the Kodak film company, once said: "You press the button, we do the rest." But even he would be surprised by the flexibility of today's cameras and camcorders.

Clever microchip technology means that almost anyone can now pick up a camera, point and shoot — and produce acceptable results. Most cameras will automatically set the focus, exposure and colour balance, but many have smart electronics systems which can do much more than this.

Combined video cameras and recorders, or camcorders, arrived in the early 1980s and soon replaced cine cameras. This was because video tape is cheap, re-usable and, by connecting the camcorder up to a home television set, the results can be instantly displayed on the screen.

During the early 1990s, camcorders were the fastest selling consumer electronics item, with sales almost doubling each year. But the recession and currency changes forced prices up and sales down.

Today's models cost between £450 and £2,000, with the more highly priced camcorders offering a wide range of creative features.

One in ten British homes has a camcorder, and most are bought by grandparents and families with young children.

However, more and more models are being aimed at people with particular lifestyles. Hitachi, for instance, markets a weather-resistant camcorder designed for outdoor users which can be used on a beach or up a mountain.

A fall in camcorder sales has not stopped video companies from launching many new models. Sharp and Sony have introduced models that have built-in colour screens of up to four inches, allowing users to view their video shots more easily while out in the field. Sharp also markets an add-on tuner, which converts the

camcorder into a portable television.

Several models from JVC and Panasonic are designed to overcome a problem that is familiar to many camcorder users — forgetting to switch it off and accidentally filming the ground as the camcorder hangs from its shoulder strap.

The new camcorders have built-in gyroscope systems which detect when the lens is pointing downwards, and automatically switch off the power after a short period. This system can be manually over-ridden.

Canon has just launched a £1,500 camcorder with a new eye-controlled focusing system. When you look at an object through the viewfinder, the camcorder automatically focuses on it. The system works by shining an invisible beam on the camcorder user's pupil, which is reflected on to a sensor.

A micro-computer calculates the eye's position and automatically adjusts the camcorder's focus system. Incidentally, the system is not affected by most types of glasses and contact lenses. Canon says eye-controlled focusing is useful when filming a fast-moving object, such as a running child.

The system can also be used to zoom in on a subject — when you look at an object, its size doubles — or for operating the fade control without taking your hands off the camcorder.

Operating a camera used to be a tedious business, with users having to calculate the

focusing distance and set the aperture size to get the correct exposure. But camera sales boomed when Konica introduced the first auto-focus compact camera in the mid-1970s. As their name suggests, compacts are smaller and lighter than the traditional single-lens reflex (SLR) camera — most will easily fit in a pocket or handbag, and are designed for point-and-shoot photography. Their prices from £5 to £400, although some special models can cost more than £1,000. The picture quality offered by compacts used to be much poorer than from an SLR, but not any more, says Peter Bargh, editor of *Buying Cameras*.

Compacts costing £200 are approaching the quality you can get from an SLR. There is no longer any need to sacrifice quality for simplicity. Compact cameras offer many automatic features in addition to auto-focus and auto-exposure. Some models automatically switch on the flash when the light level falls; others will not work if there is no film in the camera or the lens cap is on. Features such as automatic film rewind and film speed setting are fairly standard.

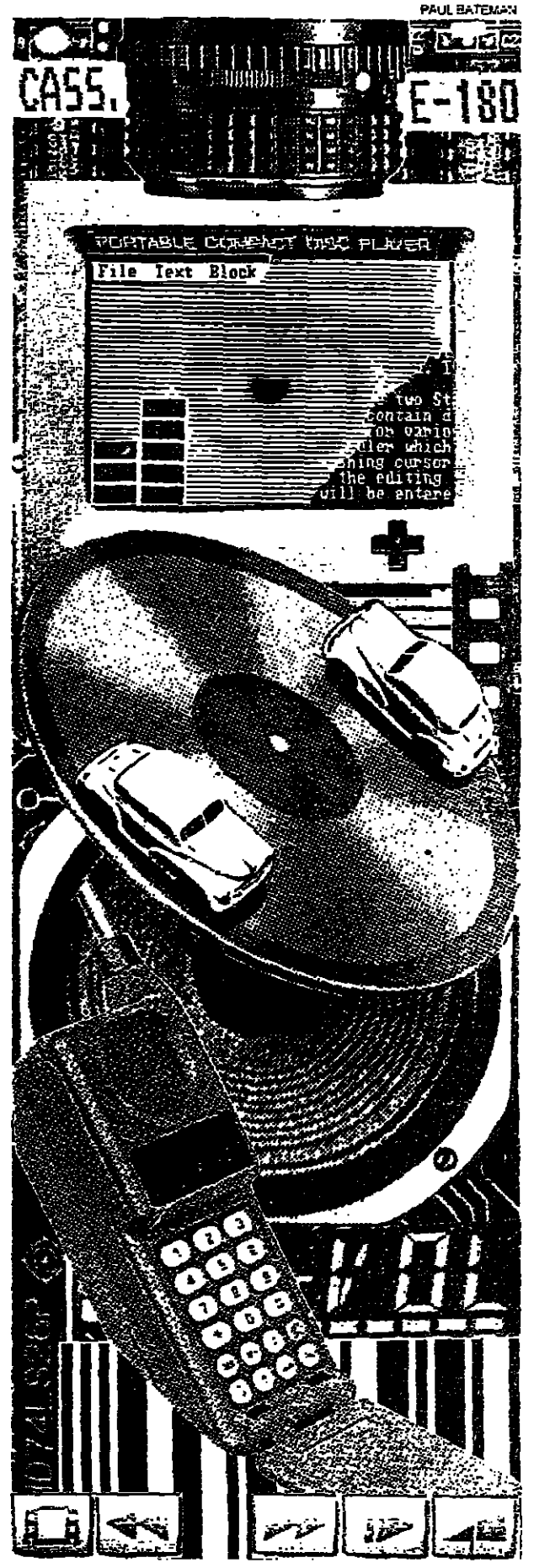
Camera companies have also been able to squeeze zoom lenses into compact camera bodies. Minolta has developed a camera with a x3.6 zoom and a programme mode system which works with it.

If you want to take a portrait shot, for instance, you simply press a button and the camera automatically zooms in to shoot from the waist-up.

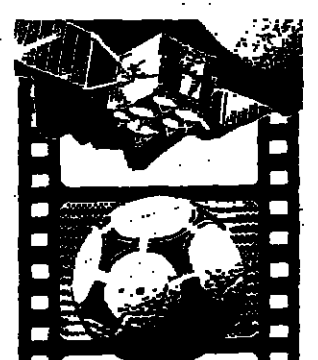
Pentax sells a £150 camera which includes a panoramic feature. Panoramic prints are almost twice as long as conventional prints and are useful for landscape or group shots.

At the cheapest end are single-shot cameras — cardboard or basic plastic cameras with a lens and film. When the prints are developed, the camera is broken up and its parts recycled. There appears to be no limit to what camera technology can do.

GEORGE COLE



## Sofas turn into TV stations



New services will create up to 500 channels and enable you to see your favourite films when you wish

Walking to the video shop to hire the latest blockbuster could seem quaintly old-fashioned to the children of tomorrow — if cable and satellite television networks have their way. Sky will add four more channels to its line-up from October: the music channel VH-1, the Soap Channel, a holiday service on Sky Travel, and a self-improving service, the Learning Channel.

In addition, coming soon to cable households is a package of four film channels — collectively called Home Cinema — from which viewers will be able to cherry-pick the films they want to pay for. And, expected to launch in London cable homes around Christmas is Channel One, a 24-hour service which will aim to inform viewers of the latest happenings in the capital.

With the launch of the Astra 1D satellite this autumn, the number of channels available to Britain's 3.5 million households with cable and satellite links could be as high as 50. Once digital compression is introduced — probably in 1995 or 1996 — capacity could be multiplied by even five or ten times, as channels are squeezed into the space now occupied by just one.

How these 500 television channels will be filled is the

subject of much market research. One likely use is for video-on-demand services: instead of having a fixed listings schedule, viewers will be able to choose from a selection of programmes and decide when they want to watch them. Another potential application is an interactive games service where people in different homes could play computer games against each other.

British cable companies are planning to invest nearly £7 billion in the industry by the end of the decade.

Fibre-optic cables allow operators to offer a "reverse-path": not only can services be sent into viewers' homes, the viewer can communicate directly with the cable company through the television set.

Yet it is satellite, not cable, which remains the most popular medium for viewers wanting greater channel choice in Britain. Only 700,000 households have so far opted for cable, compared to the 2.8 million homes with dishes, and dish sales are growing.

However, the possibility of cheaper telephone calls is enticing people to cable. The cable operators Nynex claim savings of up to 20 per cent on BT bills for consumers switching to cable telephony.

CHRIS PRICE

## Live entertainment — every day

IN ADDITION to a grand tour of all the latest products in home entertainment, visitors to Live '94 can enjoy a non-stop free programme of competitions, features, seminars and masterclasses, together with live television and radio broadcasts. The full daily schedule is listed in the Live '94 souvenir show guide, available free on the door.

**TV TIMES TELEVISION STUDIO**  
Be part of the studio audience as Cash Peters and Julia Bradbury host a continuous programme of live celebrity interviews, competitions and quiz games, with stars from the world of music, radio and television.

**CAPITAL FM RADIO STAGE**  
The ultimate radio roadshow takes place at Live '94, with nine hours of Capital's finest entertainment. Watch Mick Brown broadcast his afternoon programme from 1pm to 4pm, with live guest appearances from bands such as L.A. Loose and Eternal. Each morning, the Capital stage will host the heats and finals of the UK National Battle of the Bands competition.

**SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS AND MASTERCLASSES**  
Join leading magazines such as *Amateur Photographer*, *Hi-Fi Choice*, *Computer Shopper*, *MacUser*, and *Video Camera* for a series of presentations, with practical advice on what to buy and how to get the best from it.

**EMAP IMAGES GAMES ARENA**  
Park the children in this

vast free-play games arcade with the latest software from Sega, Nintendo, Ocean, Electronic Arts and Acclaim, including the just-released *Mortal Kombat II*. All the newest formats are on show. For would-be arcade champions, young and old, there are hourly challenges for prizes on the Emap Images Games Stage.

**HOME ENTERTAINMENT THEATRE**  
Visitors can escape to the ultimate in visual and audio quality in the Dolby Stereo Digital Theatre — one of the most advanced cinema systems in Britain. Relax to classic films and re-mixed clips from *Aliens* and *Star Wars*. At six every evening there is a free movie premiere.

**And there's more...**  
Live studio model shoots in the Photographic Pavilion... a continuous programme of the latest video releases in the Blockbuster Theatre... teams of budding journalists, the winners of the *Times Educational Supplement* Young Newspaper Of the Year Awards, publishing the *Live '94 Daily Show News*, complete with a fully operational printing press... there is also the Prince's Trust.

Starshoot, where you can have your own photo digitally imprinted beside any one of a library of celebrities, including Chris Eubank, Phil Collins, and Phillip Schofield... Footballers can try their skills in a penalty-kick challenge against genuine World Cup goalkeepers on the Sky TV stand...

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1894?

NEW IN PAPERBACK



Einstein and his first wife on their wedding day

THE PRIVATE LIVES OF ALBERT EINSTEIN

By Roger Highfield and Paul Carter  
Faber, £8.99  
Regarded for so long as a saint among scientists, Albert Einstein at last comes under the ferret-like scrutiny of two British journalists. Newly available personal papers have allowed them to challenge the great physicist's claim that he eschewed the "merely personal" in his quest for scientific enlightenment, and a biography unfolds which, while respectful of his academic contribution, is most lucid on his sexual philandering and domestic insensitivity. Highfield and Carter are not crude sensationalists, but their assertion that Ein-

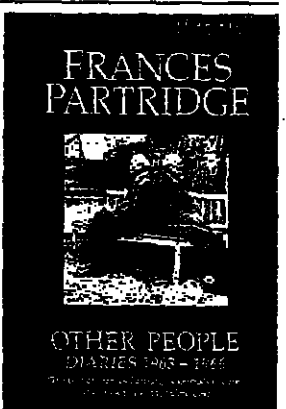
stein "was a man whose combination of intellectual vision and emotional myopia left behind him a series of damaged lives" sets the tone for a book which concentrates on disaster: the collapse of his first marriage (to a woman credited with helping him towards his theory of relativity) and the failure of later relationships. Details emerge of a man seeking to break free from a domineering mother, a man with a sexual fascination for women that was coupled with a misogynist's scorn for their intellect, of a racially disturbed son he treated without compassion, and the existence of an illegitimate daughter, not discovered until 1987, who may be alive to this day.

OTHER PEOPLE: DIARIES 1963-1966

By Frances Partridge  
Flamingo, £7.99  
At the start of this volume of her diaries, Bloomsbury's Frances Partridge is 65, wondering how long she will survive the deaths of both her husband Ralph and her son Burgo. In recent literary columns she is still going strong, 30 years later, reviewing Michael Holroyd's revised edition of *Lytton Strachey* — the book that was causing her circle so much heart-searching at the time. Despite the shadow of mortality, Partridge pressed on painfully with life, recording here with refreshing individuality and candour the ups and downs of travel, conversation and social life with often quite difficult friends. An admirable woman.

THE HIGH FLYER

By Nicholas Shakespeare  
Picador, £6.99  
Shakespeare confirms his place as one of our best and truest novelists with this tale of a disgraced English diplomat's wooden-handshake posting to a nowhere town in North Africa. The themes of dislocation, enmity and marital breakdown ("people never tell you about the end of sex") carry strong echoes of Graham Greene, but Shakespeare has a voice of his own: cultivated, worldly and touched with a subtle, whispering melancholia. In an age when good storytelling



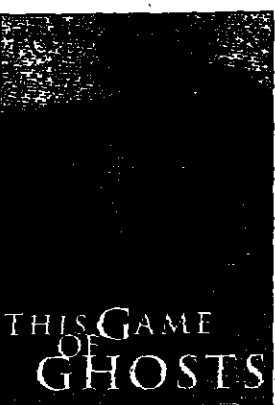
seems about as trendy as *Farming Today*, we should treasure books like this.

STAND BEFORE YOUR GOD

By Paul Watkins  
Faber, £6.99  
American novelist Paul Watkins broke his old school's omertà by writing about his experiences at Elton. His publisher was successfully sued by another Old Etonian for the use of his name for a boy who was a homosexual and a drug-taker. Some saw the case as the old boy network enacting its revenge on a traitor. But a traitor to some is a hero to others, and we should rejoice that Watkins broke rank. For here is a frank and touching account of both preparatory and public school life that neither condemns nor praises. Watkins may not have liked wearing his tailcoat, but he regrets that he never kept it.

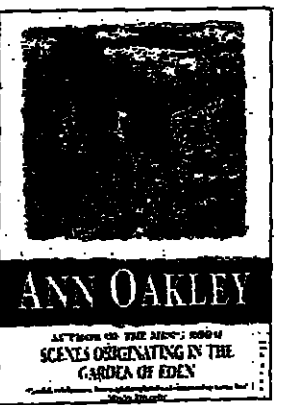
THE OXFORD BOOK OF MODERN FAIRY TALES

Edited by Alison Lurie OUP, £7.99  
Writers such as Angela Carter have brought a new degree of literary respectability to the humble fairy story and her 20th-century version of Beauty and the Beast. "The Courtship of Mr Lyon" is an excellent example for Alison Lurie to include in this anthology. It is a surprisingly broad selection, ranging from Nathaniel Hawthorne, Charles Dickens, John Ruskin and Oscar Wilde to modern offerings from Naomi Mitchison and Louise Erdrich. The younger authors tend to twist the genre to make some political statement, but most justify their inclusion in a witty or unsettling way. Not a book for children — though children will love some of the stories.



THIS GAME OF GHOSTS

By Joe Simpson  
Vintage, £6.99  
Simpson is the mountain climber who was left for dead when he fell to the bottom of a Peruvian crevasse and later wrote an award-winning account of his ordeal. This autobiography goes briefly over some of the same ground. Simpson is a first-rate storyteller and his book reads like a *Boys' Own* adventure: his account of climbing Nelson's Column to unfurl a Greenpeace banner from the top was enough to make my palms go clammy. He also goes some way to explaining why mountaineers regularly risk death for their chosen sport.



SCENES ORIGINATING IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN

By Ann Oakley  
Flamingo, £5.99  
When Flora Penfold leaves London life and lover for a rural idyll in fictional Melshire, she gets rather more than she bargained for. The village of her choice has something very odd about it. Mysterious accidents, unpleasant threats, bizarre burglaries and a suspiciously low fertility rate suggest more than a hint of something nasty in the woodshed. Oakley gives unusual spin and richness to her romantic-satirical story of everyday countryfolk. A thoroughly entertaining read.

Contributors: Giles Coren, Alison Burns, Jake Michie, Guy Walters, Lois Rathbone, Helen Davis

A good innings but not a great one

PLAYING FOR THE ASHES

By Elizabeth George  
Bantam, £15.99  
GIVEN how good she can be, Elizabeth George is an exasperating writer. She is American, lives in California, but sets her crime novels in Britain. Fair enough, except that sometimes she gets important bits of police procedure and the criminal justice system wrong, which can be extremely irritating, especially when, as in *Playing for the Ashes*, it matters to the plot. George has also chosen as her hero a wealthy aristocratic police officer, Detective Inspector Thomas Lynley, aka Lord Asherton, complete with Bentley, manservant, and a female working-class police-sergeant sidekick to patronise. She might have been wiser to pick less of a cliché.

The moan is over. George is a very fine writer, and *Playing for the Ashes* is almost an excellent book. The body of Ken Fleming, England test cricketer, is found in a country cottage on a day he was supposed to be on holiday in Greece with his teenage son. He leaves an embittered wife, a flighty mistress, and Miriam, the obsessed older woman who had been his mentor and provider for much of his life. Lynley investigates. What lifts *Playing for the Ashes* above the competent commonplace is the interspersed first-person narrative of Olivia, estranged daughter of Miriam. Once a prostitute and drug addict, now living in increasing ill health on a barge with an animal welfareist and his dogs, Olivia is a sad, moving, spirited loser.

George's juxtaposition of the two strands — the police inquiry and the tormented girl — is brilliantly and subtly achieved. The stories run sometimes in parallel, but in the end they interlock in a deeply shocking vortex.

The reservation, the reason for the "almost" verdict, is that



George: almost excellent

George tries to do too much. The book is nearly 600 pages long. Some of the sub-plots and minor characters are unnecessary. At 150 pages fewer, *Playing for the Ashes* could have been one of the crime books of the year.

MARCEL BERLINS

End of the laager louts

THE astonishing journey from apartheid to free elections, the journey so many thought could only be traversed through a sea of blood, is captured here on the hoof by a journalist who is currently political editor of *The Star* in Johannesburg. In a fat book of short articles published between May 1986 and May 1994, he gives us a portrait from a white liberal perspective of the almost bloodless revolution.

Shaun Johnson, a 35-year-old, was always an optimist. "For many years I have argued that an unprecedented, seemingly impossible unravelling of our racial Gordian knot was within our reach if we could only believe in it sufficiently." It did not stop him describing the necklacing of traitors by the wilder fringes of ANC supporters with a chilling eye. It has not made him unreasonably optimistic about the future: "There will be much to be disillusioned about in the new South Africa: that is the way of the world." In this excellent collection of rather too short episodes, it is a pleasure to remember the key moments along the route from P. W. Botha's misguided laager mentality, defying the rest of the world to "do its damndest", all the way to President F. W. de Klerk's astonishing emergence as an unlikely revolutionary. Gorbachev-like, he sprang from a dismal personal political past, when he had rallied against integrated sport, mixed mar-



THE Anglia regiment counterattacking stone-throwers in Bogside, Londonderry, Northern Ireland, photographed by Don McCullin, from *Sleeping with Ghosts* (Jonathan Cape, £25). McCullin is one of the world's great photojournalists. David Driver writes. For his book, he has

selected 200 photographs from most of the world conflicts over the past 30 years, including Northern Ireland, The Congo and Biafra. Many of these pictures originally appeared in *The Sunday Times* magazine, whose art editor, David King, has now collaborated in the excellent design of this book.

The importance of photojournalism is that it is our only fixed reference to events we distantly experience. Television's role is inadequate by the inevitably transitory nature of that medium. McCullin's images remain fresh and powerful, and could easily have been captured yesterday.

Sally O'Sullivan on a study of high-flying career women that only confirms male prejudices

Mistresses of the media

THE EXECUTIVE TART & OTHER MYTHS

By Ginny Dougary  
Virago, £7.99

ing) are interesting enough individually but there are few generalisations worth making. Except, perhaps, that most of the women interviewed do not have children and many make the point that this was a conscious choice.

This theme is strongest in broadcasting, where the thirtysomethings chew over the "having-it-all" cud relentlessly and conclude that children and a top job do not mix. In the words of BBC drama producer Philippa Giles, "I will give it up to have children because, in the end television is ephemeral".

The older generation take it as read: "having-it-all", while not impossible, is tough and only works in specific circumstances (ie. an accommodating partner). Not surprisingly, few remain with their first or even second husband and some have opted for no partner.

The book divides fairly evenly between those who have achieved because they are women and those who have got there "in spite of" this impediment, for they all agree, to a greater or lesser extent, that an impediment it indeed is. According to Janet Street-Porter, "I think like a man



Equal exposure: Harriet Walter and Bill Nighy in *The Men's Room*

I suppose I'm a woman — I've got this, but I don't believe in singling women out as a disabled group." But do they really have an impact on how women are portrayed in media? Dougary points out, in her conclusion, the sublime irony of this question in the light of the brouhaha that blew up

after her now famous Norman Lamont interview. Lamont, you will recall, described the Prime Minister as "weak and hopeless", which prompted the media to describe Dougary as a "flame-haired", "alluring" temptress with "pretty curves", and so on.

In advertising there are a few good examples of female impact, such as Barbara Nokes's advertisement for Doctor Whites that featured a man in silky camiknickers and bra clutching his head with a line which read: "Have you ever wondered how men would carry on if they had periods?"

Antonia Ford speaks for many in broadcasting when she points out just how precise and determined you have to be. Take her experience making *The Men's Room*. "What we tried to do was never to show a bit of Harriet Walter's body without showing a bit of Bill Nighy's body. So if you saw Harriet's bottom you also saw Bill's bottom."

Eve Polzella suffered no such dilemmas on the *Sunday Express* reporting a convergence of the tastes and interests of men and women. "Men are trying much harder to understand their children. They are even trying to understand themselves."

Meanwhile, it seems, women in media are struggling along much the same lines. This book charts that struggle and, as such, will be immediately absorbing to those in the centre of the fray. As for others, particularly men, I fear it will merely confirm their prejudices.

This is perhaps the biggest irony of all, for in writing what was clearly intended as a "pro-woman" book, Dougary has produced, sadly, quite the opposite. Sally O'Sullivan is editor-in-chief of *Good Housekeeping* magazine.

PETER MILLAR

Too clever by half

DEPENDENCE DAY

By Robert Newman  
Century paperback original, £8.99

streetwise allusions, brand names and ephemeral political clichés that will date it as early 1990s as surely as flared jeans and a purple shirt signal the fashion of the 1970s.

His characters inhabit a world of ghetto gangs and tacky pubs, where Swiss army knives can become instruments of murder. The best jokes are, predictably, the flights of fantasy, such as the

developing personalities of the spaced-out sparrows used in his hoods' improbable drug-struggling racket.

At its best the writing is crisp, economical and entertaining, until it unexpectedly changes direction. I suspect Newman would plead his fractured non-narration is the way the young in the post-literary video age see life. He may even be right, but if his aim was to tell the rest of us about it, he unfortunately misses the mark.



De Klerk and Mandela: architects of the impossible

STRANGE DAYS INDEED

By Shaun Johnson  
Bantam, £5.99

riages and trade-union rights for blacks. Yet his political dexterity, as much as Oliver Tambo and Nelson Mandela's remarkable capacity for forgiveness, rescued South Africa from being the world's parish. Like the best journalism, the book bristles with the texture, rumour and the wry wit of the moment. Once the euphoria of Mandela's release is past, a grim awareness of the problems ahead takes a grip. What do the Zulu migrant workers say about "the new South Africa"? "Ayanamasondo" — it has no wheels. In the grip of a recession that is crippling the townships, black humour abounds. Fearful for the future economy as they look at the disastrous plight of countries to the north, they joke, "What did the Zambians use

before they had canoes?" The answer, accompanied by bitter laughter, is "electricity". It is the kind of joke you would expect from whites.

But, like even the best journalism, it does not quite make a real book. With so much fresh raw material, it is a pity Johnson did not sit down to write a measured retrospective account. The pace of even such good, short newspaper pieces wears over the long course.

The story of apartheid lacks the sweeping dimensions of, say, Vietnam. The tragedy of South Africa all along has been that it was a freak of nature, an aberration on the world map. It was not a part of the Cold War, nor a part of any world movement, not even of other African politics. That was why it festered away for so long, but also why the laager was always doomed.

POLLY TOYNBEE

A divine comedy

THE CHURCH HESITANT

By Ysenda Maxtone Graham  
Hodder & Stoughton, £9.99

TROLLOPE would have loved Ysenda Maxtone Graham's wry, witty, whimsical and sometimes waspish picture of the modern Church of England, though he might have winced at the reduced circumstances in which the C of E finds itself. Here are the Bible-thumping charismatics, the frilly-surpliced gay clerics, the

lovable liberals, the supercilious deans. Nearly every page contains a funny anecdote, but the tone throughout is affectionately probing rather than vindictively critical.

Her treatment of church music, just one strand among many, is typical in its insight. The fight between the "happy-clappy" bearded ones and the traditional chancel choirs is being viciously fought, and it is difficult for any music-loving church-goer to remain impartial. Yet Graham does just that, presenting each side's case fairly and coming to the resoundingly Anglican conclusion that it is nice to have a choice.

That turns up her message: the C of E's weakness — its astonishing diversity of beliefs and non-beliefs — is really its most endearing strength.

RICHARD MORRISON

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# PROPERTY

19

Property prices in Provence are going up again but bargains can still be found, especially to the north of the region

## A dearer year in Provence

Peter Mayle has a lot to answer for. At this time of year when people return from holidays on the other side of the Channel, their dream is no longer merely to return next year but to own a home in the South of France.

Property in much of the warm, fashionable south is expensive. It is sought after by homebuyers of various nationalities, including the French, and affordable homes are becoming harder to find. A restored Provencal *mas*, a long, low farmhouse, built around a courtyard, with about half an acre, costs at least £300,000 in some parts of Provence.

Overall, property prices in Provence are beginning to move again after falling back since the late 1980s, but there are still bargains to be found in the north of the area.

According to Alistair Williamson, a property consultant specialising in the area, in Provence, there has been a marked increase in buyers looking to relocate there. "Many are self-employed people looking for a property in which to set up home and office. Provence is ideal, with good communications and beautiful surroundings."

The area west of Avignon, around the old Roman city of Nîmes, now the principal city of the Gard, is the poor-man's Provence, where you can still find an old village house to restore for under £30,000.

The *département* of the Gard is characterised by its terraced hills, vineyards, orchards, lavender and sunflower fields and by its small tranquil villages.

Wild boar shooting and truffle hunting are popular in the countryside, while in the sleepy hilltop villages, old men spend most of their time drinking wine and playing boules.

For those who want more lively evening activities, Avignon and Nîmes are nearby with their theatres, opera houses and smart restaurants. The Mediterranean coast and Marseille are about an hour and a half's drive away, or there is freshwater swimming and canoeing in the river Gard.

The Gard is very accessible — Avignon is only three and a half hours from Paris on the new TGV train line; there is also an overnight train from London. Alternatively you can fly from Marseille or Montpellier. Old properties in the Gard represent some of the best value in the south.

In the villages around the town of Uzès, there are houses to convert for about £25,000. A renovated house, with two or three bedrooms would cost £70,000.

Prices are higher in the countryside, where properties are larger, often with a good chunk of land. An unconverted Provencal *mas* starts at about £100,000 but expect to spend at least another £50,000 to £100,000 on renovations.



Keith Floyd (far left) enjoying a browse on market day at a typical village in Provence. The area's beauty makes it popular with foreign property buyers

A habitable farmhouse with three or four bedrooms and outbuildings would cost about £180,000, half an hour's drive northwest of Avignon, while the fully renovated version with a swimming pool in the courtyard, is likely to set you back about £240,000.

A restored *mas* in the countryside near Uzès with exposed stone walls, beautiful views and outbuildings to convert, is currently on offer at around £210,000 through agents Barbers. It has three bedrooms, a "salon" with fireplace, bathroom, shower room, vaulted kitchen, sun terraces and gardens. It was on the market last year at £275,000.

Alternatively you can buy a partly restored *mas* set in a courtyard with enclosed gardens on the edge of a pretty village near Uzès. It has three bedrooms, bathroom, reception room, kitchen and eight further rooms to restore. The price is about around £181,000.

The lavender-covered *département* of the Drôme, on the north-eastern edge of Provence, is worth considering for those in search of a home in quiet and beautiful surroundings. It has a dry Mediterranean climate and is easily reached by the A7 motorway to



A Paul Hogarth illustration from *A Year in Provence*

Montélimar, or by plane to Marseille or Lyon. The Drôme remains largely undiscovered by househunters who drive past it on their way to the Mediterranean, and prices are relatively low.

Old stone houses in the hilltop towns south of Nîmes, the olive oil capital of France, can be found in a habitable state for as little as £25,000, while a fully restored farmhouse costs about £133,000.

Prices rise further south in the Luberon (Peter Mayle country) between Aix-en-Provence and Avignon. A small

modern villa in traditional Provencal style with exposed beams and an open fireplace, or an old village house with a courtyard or rooftop terrace costs at least £90,000 here.

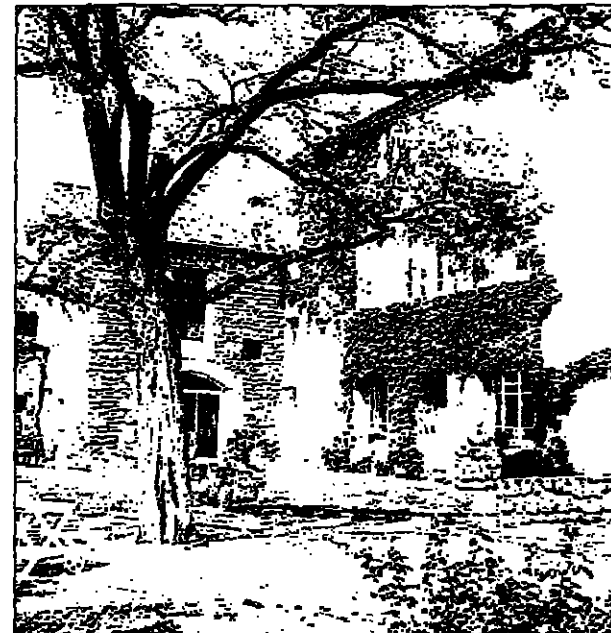
A new 18-hole championship golf course, designed by Severiano Ballesteros has been built in the area on 450 acres of former vineyards with views of the Luberon mountains. London and Metropolitan is financing the £120 million Pont Royal development (pictured, bottom right) — an ambitious scheme to create three hilltop villages with 1,000 homes overlooking two golf courses. The first village, Le Village de l'Eglise, is nearing completion. Traditional materials have been used throughout including local honey-coloured stone, bleached wood shutters and old terracotta roof tiles.

Apartments start at £72,000 for one bedroom; two bedroom townhouses with views of lake and golf course cost from £157,000. A detached villa with up to four bedrooms, private swimming pool and terrace, bordering the golf course will set you back £280,000 to £500,000.

CHERYL TAYLOR

### How to buy in Provence

UK agents with associates in Provence include GAK Williamson (0962 734999); Barbers (071-221 0555); Authentic France (0258 821372). Further details about Pont Royal can be obtained from the developers' London office (071-702 0033).



A village house 23 miles from Avignon, about £150,000



Partly restored *mas* in a village near Uzès, about £181,000



Pont Royal, a golf and residential resort in Provence

### COUNTRY PROPERTY

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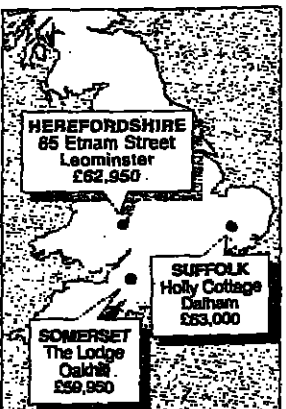
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Somerset: The Lodge, Pondsmead Estate, Oakhill. Grade II listed Victorian former lodge, with Gothic doors, flagstone floors and beamed ceilings, in a pretty garden on the outskirts of a village. Bedroom, bathroom, lounge/dining room and modernised kitchen. Gas central heating. About £59,950 (Black Horse Agencies, 0749 342351).



Suffolk: Holly Cottage, Dalham. Thatched cottage with a walled garden in a conservation village, close to Newmarket. One bedroom, bathroom, living room with inglenook fireplace and kitchen. About £63,000 (Bedfords, 0284 769999).

C. T.





Charming Grade II listed stone thatched cottage, originally coaching inn, circa 1670, overlooking quiet village green. Mature, private garden, exposed beams, fully modernised. 4.5 bedrooms, 4.5 min Wellingborough - St. Pancras. £740,000, 0804 886131

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# PROPERTY FOR SALE

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MOUNT PLEASANT - High Rental Potential  
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0243 552170

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Family House, large garden to open farmland in friendly village, good communications A44, M11. Hall, dining room, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, utility, cloak, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, double garage. £183,000.  
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## The rosy fruits of autumn

George Plumptre,  
The Times  
Gardener, on  
the roses whose  
hips bring a glow to  
harvest time

Gardeners who have conscientiously pruned their roses during the past couple of months will be enjoying the second flush of bloom. But for a month or more the native dog roses in hedgerows have been advertising the hips which are a longer-established and more natural autumn feature of the rose.

Among commonly grown perennials and shrubs, particularly in a small garden, there are few more cheery signals of autumn than a mass of orange or red rose hips against a background of slowly yellowing foliage.

Fashionable priorities for roses are that they flower for as long as possible and are disease-resistant. There is a strong urge to reproduce the colour and scent qualities of old-fashioned shrub roses, which flower only once in the summer, with the reliability and repeat-flowering potential of modern hybrids. The range of "English" shrub roses, produced by the rose grower David Austin by hybridising old roses with modern varieties, is a result of this quest.

But the best hips do not grow on profusely flowering, scented shrub roses. The development of hybrid tea or floribunda roses to maximise their flowering season, and the rigorous pruning to which they are subjected, has effectively killed the production of fruit. Instead, the best show of hips is produced on species shrub and rambling roses.

During and after their single flowering season these should be left unpruned to allow the necessary fertilisation of their flowers by bees. This results in the plant setting hips. Their natural cycle of a summer flowering season followed by autumn fruit or hips remains largely undisturbed by the requirements of modern cultivation forced on hybrid roses.

Where rambling varieties need to



The beautiful white-flowered *Rosa* 'Snow dwarf' (Schneezweig) is one of the varieties which produce full-rounded hips in autumn

be controlled they can be pruned after the hips have finished. Species roses will continue producing flowers and hips with limited pruning — perhaps every two years — best done in the spring.

*Rosa rugosa* and its hybrids are the exceptions. They are the only group of naturally repeat-flowering roses which also have impressive hips. These often ripen at the same time as a second flush of flowers. The hips are distinctly rounded and ripen from green to a rich, almost translucent red, giving them the appearance of small tomatoes. The 'Frau Dagmar Hastrup' and 'Rubra' are rugosas whose late flush of single pink and red flowers are accompanied by displays of hips. The single white-flowered *R. rugosa* 'Alba' and perhaps the best of all rugosas, the semi-double, white-flowered 'Blanche double de Coubert' both produce orange-red hips against dense deep-green foliage.

Luxuriant clusters of rugosa hips have a burgeoning, edible quality that is evocative of autumn plenty

and harvest festivals. But some of my favourite hip-producing roses are the more delicate flowered and leaved species roses. These include *R. moyesii*, whose slender arching stems form an open spray shape and carry single, crimson flowers in June and July. The orange-red hips have often been described as shaped like small flagons and they stand out against the thin background of almost fern-like leaves. *R. rubrifolia* (also known as *R. glauca*) grows to a similar shape, but its most distinctive feature is the purple-blue shade of its foliage, which makes a superb background for its red hips.

Many roses will begin showing hips in August, and *R. rubrifolia* often retains its hips until early winter. *R. virginiana* also keeps its bright-red hips and has the added attraction of them being offed by background foliage which steadily turns to shades of orange, red and yellow. The native 'Scotch' rose, *R. pimpinellifolia* has leaves which similarly assume tawny-gold autumn shades at the same time as

unusual purple-black or black hips.

In addition to shrub roses, there are some rambling varieties which produce a good show of hips. The best is probably the least grown, *R. helena*, whose June show of fragrant white flowers is followed by orange-red hips from late September. When trained into a tree or over trellis its bunches of hips can be a spectacular sight. It was a favourite for the distinguished plant collector E.H. Wilson, who introduced it to Britain from China in 1907, and named it after his wife.

Three more commonly grown white flowered ramblers that produce dense quantities of small orange hips are 'Francis E. Lester', 'Rambling Rector' and 'Seagull'.

The rose grower Peter Beales suggests that roses which produce a good crop of hips are usually healthy plants. And the healthy properties of rose hips, which are rich in vitamin C than either oranges or blackcurrants, have led to the making of rose-hip syrup and jelly. Here's an old recipe to try:

Mrs Beeton's rose-hip jelly

"Choose firm but well-ripened fruit. Wash and top and tail. Use 2lb of hips to one and a half pints of water and pressure-cook for 30 minutes. Push through a wire sieve and strain again through a jelly bag. Add 1lb of sugar and half a teaspoon of tartaric acid to each pint of juice. Return to heat in open cooker to dissolve sugar and boil until setting point is reached."

● Half-hardy annuals that have finished flowering should be dug up and replaced by spring plants. Spring bulbs and forget-me-nots can be planted now; wallflowers in October.

● Box hedges and topiary should have their main trim now.

● Sow seeds of lettuce and other salad crops for spring harvesting.

● Order your tulip bulbs now for November planting.

## GARDEN ANSWERS



STEPHEN ANDERTON  
replies to readers' letters

Q Our Victorian terrace house has a small front lawn which serves no real purpose. I would like to get rid of it but keep a bit of green surface to cheer me up in winter, perhaps just four or five square yards. Could I grow from seed a camomile lawn from the non-flowering variety 'Treneague'? — Gerda Kloos, Hest Bank, Lancaster.

A Camomile lawns are not easy to grow, or cheap if you use 'Treneague' which, as a non-flowering variety, has to be propagated from cuttings and bought as plants. Five square yards, even at just one plant per square foot, would be costly especially when the result is not guaranteed. Camomile lawns work better in the imagination than in reality, and need a lot of attention to make them dense, let alone attractive.

I would look for something easier to maintain. For winter greenery, try a low (12in) pattern of clipped box hedging, with an internal space for summer planting. It would suit the house, make minimal work, and would cost no more than a camomile lawn. I believe parterres are coming back into fashion in gardens large and small.

Q What should be the ratio of roots to height of the blue Atlas cedar *Cedrus atlantica* 'Glaucous', of which we have a splendid specimen in our garden? — Mrs V.G.M. Swift, Crawley, West Sussex.

A Generally, tree roots extend sideways 10-20 per cent further than the height of the tree at any stage in its development. It is sensible, therefore, to plant trees no closer to a house than 1.5 times their ultimate height. There are excep-

tions: who would wish to see felled the towering cedar in the lee of some Jacobean pile, or the ancient walnut near a rustic brick cottage? Let commonsense prevail, but not too much. The place to be really careful is on clay soils. Willows and poplars are notorious for burrowing their roots deep into the heaviest soils, which then shrink and move as they are sucked dry, and move yet again as they re-absorb water. Small, modern houses are most at risk from such movement. A good indicator of a tree being too close to a house is the robbing of light from windows and the risk of branches dropping against the house. Such trees should be taken down.

Q We have a healthy eight-year-old wisteria on a sheltered north wall, but it has failed to produce flowers. Why is this? — G. Jennings, Worksop, Nottinghamshire.

A Most wisterias require as much sun as possible, though forms of *Wisteria floribunda* will manage with a little less. Replant yours on a south or southwest wall, or buy another. Wisteria can sometimes be frustratingly slow to begin flowering, even planted in the correct aspect. Eight years is unreasonable, but half that is not unusual. The commonest reasons for lack of flowering are too much nitrogen and too little sun. Correct pruning also helps the plant to settle down to flowering.

● Readers wishing to have gardening problems answered should write to: Garden Answers, Weekend, The Times, 1, Finsbury Square, London EC2A 3DF. We regret that few personal answers can be given, but if you are in a hurry, please write to: Garden Answers, 1, Finsbury Square, London EC2A 3DF. We regret that few personal answers can be given, but if you are in a hurry, please write to: Garden Answers, 1, Finsbury Square, London EC2A 3DF.

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# OUTDOORS

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I wonder if those thinkers who wander weekly through *The Moral Maze*, now on BBC television during a break from Radio 4, can think their way through a particularly tricky moral dilemma that is causing me some sleepless nights? The question is this: when an animal has to be moved and it will not budge an inch, how far should the farmer go down the path of persuasion and trickery before swerving on to the fast-track of coercion?

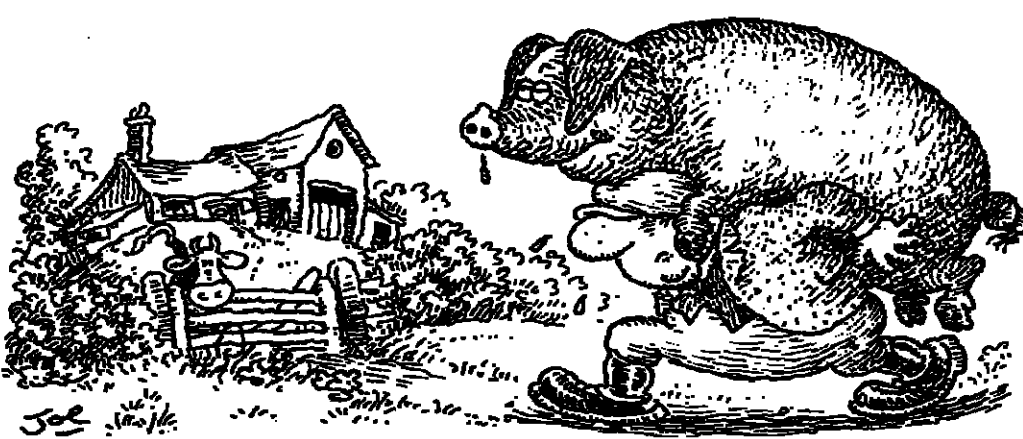
I ask because this is becoming an increasingly urgent problem. Every day for the past week I have gone to the orchard and stared intently at Polly the Pig's virgin nippies, and I swear they are getting bigger. This effect is known locally as "applein' up" and is a guaranteed sign that piglets are on the way. At the moment, the applein' up has reached only the stage where the sow's udder looks like a bag of Cox's Orange Pippins, but it will not be many days before it is like a sack of prize Bramleys, and then we will know for certain that some action is imminent.

This expected farrowing will be something of a landmark: not only will it be the first litter our of young

Polly, it will be the first offspring born to our boar, Murphy, who has yet to prove that his manly appendages are in full working order. If they prove to be so, then we can look forward to a celebration to mark that of the birth of an heir to the throne. If not, sausages are going to figure largely on our menu for many months to come.

So far, the signs are good: the udder swells daily and I decided that Polly must be moved from the muddy and damp orchard to the dry comfort of the strawed sty. We hauled the trailer up the hill, strawed the ramp, put buckets of slop deep inside to tempt her and, hoping there would be several days yet before she exploded into motherhood, we left her to get used to the idea that the inside of a trailer was a safe place to be. But this has proved to be as fruitless as trying to persuade a condemned prisoner that Death Row represents a desirable residence.

Polly will go as far as to place her front two feet on the ramp, but



never her back two. Even then, she is so tremulous that the sound of a pigeon leaving a tree will have her backing off like Damon Hill in full reverse. What shall I do? Morally speaking, it would surely be best to rely on persuasion: no farm animal was

## FARMER'S DIARY: PAUL HEINEY

ever killed by kindness. But have I not a duty to the unborn litter: to ensure that their first encounter with the world is not an open-air, damp and hostile one with rats and foxes lying ready to pounce?

On the other hand, if I opt for force, am I going to infringe her rights, and moreover scar her emotionally forever so that the mere sight of a trailer in years to come will have her over the hills and far away? I do not want to employ force, because it rarely works. When our

dear sow, Alice, was young and frisky and required moving, I was less considered about the whole business than perhaps I should have been. I remember consulting an old book on all aspects of animal handling which gave precise instructions on the way to wrap pigs in ropes in such a way that they would become as hiddable as a dog on a lead. I quote: "The both fore-legs together by putting three or four half-hitches above the fetlocks. Hind legs in a similar manner. Fasten a longer rope to that joining the fore legs and run it back between the hind legs..."

Well, Alice, who had her dignity even as an ingenue, did not take kindly to having anyone fumbling around with bits of string near her hocks. I did achieve some kind of parcelling arrangement and shouted: "Come on, old girl, we've got you now." But she gave one shrug of her broad shoulders and was out of it as speedily as Houdini. In the end, she walked willingly in the direction we intended, but not

ill she had tested us. I wonder if Polly is doing the same? Is she going to push us till she can determine the limits to which we can be forced, and store this in her mind for further use when she might, once again, be able to play this protracted and frustrating game of "catch-the pig"?

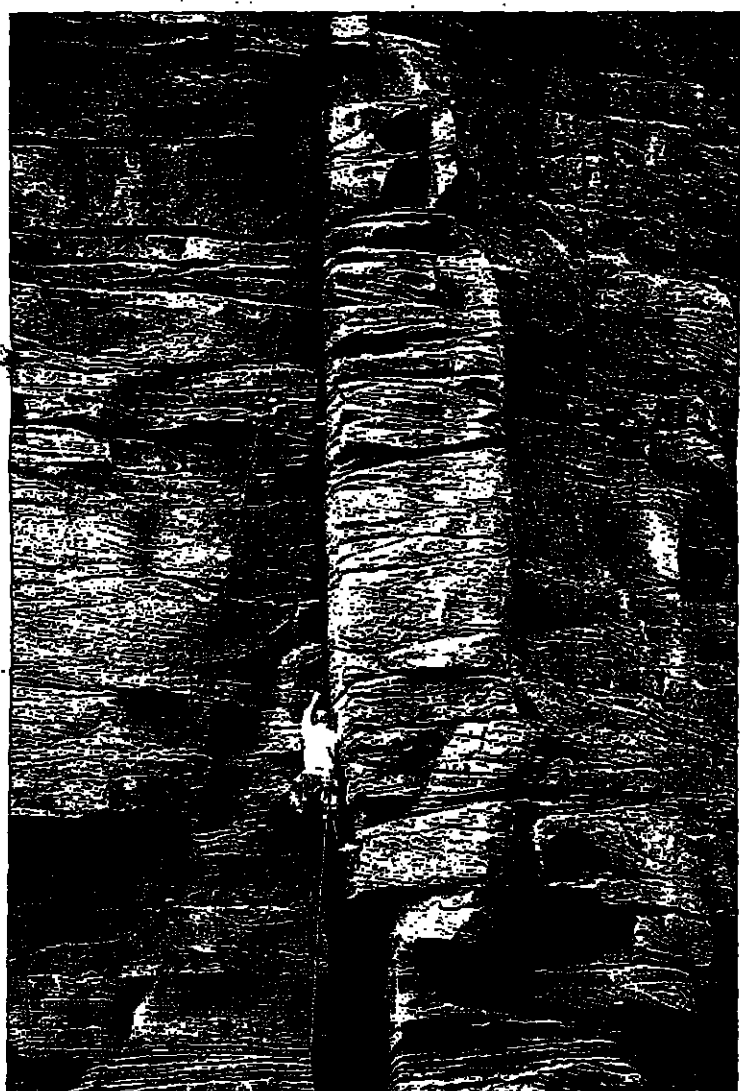
You see my dilemma, and how fine a moral judgment I must make? Michael Buerk could have his *Moral Maze* panel rattling on for hours over this one.

I have tried persuasion, but I fear Polly is hardly gregarious enough to follow a bucket. Her favourite food is maize: freshly cut, tall, green stalks with succulent heads of sweetcorn hidden between the leaves, of which we have a decent crop this year. I have been out in the field every morning hacking away at it like a slave on a sugar plantation, hoping that this will finally tempt her up the ramp. I have even considered starving her of all other food till the desire for the maize becomes overwhelming.

But, distinguished thinkers of the panel, would this make it into Immoral Maize? I really do not know what to do for the best. Over to you, Professor Starkey.

A 71-year-old climber tackles the frightening overhangs and sheer drops of a renowned ascent

## My quest to be the oldest man of Hoy



Dwarfed by the Old Man of Hoy, Richard Sykes clings to a finger hold

You must be seriously old, said big Jim Curran, our television cameraman. I had merely remarked, as we neared the northern tip of Scotland, that I had been up that way before, early in the Second World War, to join a battleship in Scapa Flow. Now I had to admit to being 71.

I was feeling a tingle of adventure, as I had back in 1942. But this time our adversary was a peaceful giant: the Old Man of Hoy. My aim was to set the age record for the ascent of that spectacular fang of rock that stabs 450ft into the sky; more than the height of St Paul's Cathedral.

After the remarkable BBC television live broadcast of its ascent in 1967 by teams including Joe Brown, Britain's most eminent rock-climber, it has become the most famous landmark in Orkney and one of the acclaimed rock-climbs of Britain.

My climbing friend, Dr Richard Sykes, 61, had asked me to do a sponsored climb of the Old Man for Westcare, the Bristol charity he has formed to support sufferers of ME (myalgic encephalomyelitis). The climbing party was completed by Bristolian Dave Parker, 35.

That night we lodged at Rackwick, on the island of Hoy, with a crofter, Jack Rendall, and his wife, Dorothy. It rained a little during the night and again next morning as we set off on the hour's walk along the cliffs.

As we peered over the cliff, the Old Man reared up, fulmars wheeling, waves lapping far below. We could trace our route up the dizzy walls, threading between the overhangs. We felt a tightening in the stomach.

We walked gingerly down a slippery, muddy track with a lethal drop of several hundred feet to a rocky shore. It cranked up our anxiety. Once down, a narrow neck of land connected the track to the shore. From the foot of the rock spire we looked up, craning our necks hard back. On every side it was intimidating. Overhang was piled on over-



Mike Banks preparing for his seven-hour climb of the Old Man of Hoy, which towers 450ft out of a raging sea, west of Scapa Flow in the Orkneys

hang. Our task looked impossible. Richard led the climb. The first 80ft was a pleasant warm up. The main difficulties were in the next 120ft, which would breach the worst of the overhangs. We watched Richard traverse to the right and then disappear from sight. Over the next half hour we paid out the rope until he reached the top of the pitch and pulled the rope tight for the next man to climb. It was Dave Parker's turn; later the rope came tight to me.

I stepped from the safety of my ledge on to the traverse and was instantly conscious of the 200ft drop below me. I edged my way across and then steeply upwards and outwards past the first overhang. Near-vertical rock above brought me into a square-cut crack, which climbers call a chimney. I squirmed up this until my

helmet bumped against its roof. OK so far, but I knew that this was where the big show started.

The roof jutted out 4ft into space. There were two small footholds at shoulder height. Luckily, a wooden wedge had been hammered into a crack and a nylon sling hung from it. Now followed a committing and heart-thumping move. I pulled on the sling, worked my feet up the smooth walls until first one, then both feet found the crucial holds. One final, desperate haul and I arched backwards into space, up and over the lip. I grabbed a handhold and pulled back into balance to find myself jammed into a ludicrous vertical crack which reared up 60ft. It was a hard tussle to get up; then I was with my friends on a small ledge.

The worst was over, but then rain hit us; it sheeted down, thunder crashed. Rain is bad news for the climber: friction is reduced and it is difficult to hold on. Hard moves become desperate. The rocks were streaming with water and the sandstone grit turned to slime. It was mid-afternoon but we decided to press on.

Three pitches followed of nervous, insecure climbing. At last we were below the final crack, which soared for the last 80ft. It was incredibly steep but the rock here was clean and the holds good. The rain was now at shower-bath intensity.

I grappled my way up and found my friends just below the summit. They invited me to step up first. As I arrived the rain stopped and sunlight burst through. It was opt: the climb had taken about seven hours.

We took photographs and congrat-

ulated Richard on a courageous lead for a 61-year-old. We descended by abseiling on doubled ropes. The abseil over the big overhangs left me swinging in space with a 200ft drop. I then had to haul myself back on to the rock face and grab something, anything, to stay on. One more abseil and we were down as darkness fell.

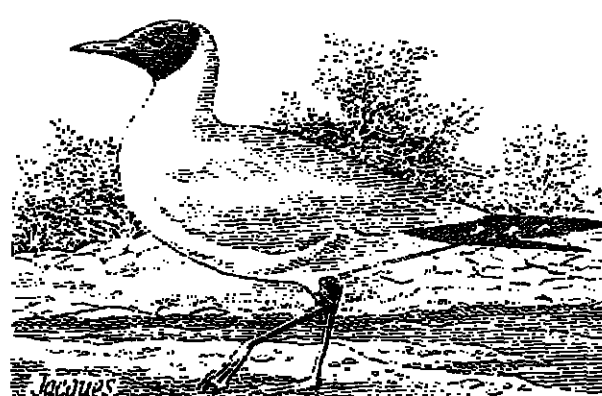
We groped our way back to Rackwick and opened the champagne 13 hours hours after setting out.

## MIKE BANKS

Getting there: a twice-daily ferry between Stromness and Hoy (Moness) is run by Stevie Mowat (0856 850624). Jack and Dorothy Rendall (0856 791262) offer B&B at Rackwick, Hoy. There is a hostel with dormitory accommodation at Rackwick run by the education department at Kirkwall (0856 873535).

ME charity Westcare, 0272 239341.

## The gulls sweep back into town



The black-headed gull, a screaming opportunist

SOON there will hardly be a suburban football pitch without a white pool of gulls gathered out in the middle, or a line of them jostling and screaming on the goal posts.

Most of these autumn arrivals will be black-headed gulls, already losing the brown cap that gives them their somewhat inaccurate name. In winter, all they will retain of that will be a dark mark behind the eye.

They are distinguishable from other gulls by their flight. They rise and fall with each wing-beat, like a tern. They

also have a white line along the front of the wing, and their beak and legs are red. Immature birds are mottled brown and have yellowish legs.

The gulls are great opportunists. In the fields, they will spread through a lapwing flock, each gull marking its victim like a footballer, and as soon as the lapwing finds a morsel of food, the attendant gull tries to grab it. However, the lapwings get some benefit: the gulls see off predators, such as hawks or foxes.

The gulls are just as quick to see their chance in town. In winter they strut about in public squares waiting for tourists to throw them a tidbit. They also hawk in the air for flying ants, and raid rubbish dumps. At night they roost on reservoirs and lakes, and before settling gather high in the sky, wheeling in large circles. About 150,000 pairs of

black-headed gulls nest in Britain in the summer, either on sand dunes or coastal marshes, or by tarns and bogs inland. With their young, that might mean there are up to a million British black-headed gulls here in early winter. In addition, huge numbers flock in from Scandinavia and eastern Europe, so that at the height of winter there are about three million.

Among the other gull species, the so-called common gull is common only in northern England and Scotland, where it nests on the moors and by lochs, but many come south in winter. Herring gulls stay mainly on the coast. Lesser black-backed gulls pass through the country in large numbers in autumn, and more are overwintering: they are fierce birds and will dive at a dog if it annoys them.

Another British regular is the great black-backed gull, whose back is blacker and more sinister than the lesser: it reigns over the rocky shores like an eagle of the sea.

## FEATHER REPORT

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What's about Birders - look and listen out for the arrival of migrating meadow pipits. Twitchees - woodchat strike, one at Landguard, Felixstowe, Suffolk, the other at Stanford Warren, Essex. Wilson's phalarope at Stearn Point, Somerset. Details from Birdline, 0801 700777. Calls cost 30p per minute cheap rate, 49p at all other times.

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SWITZERLAND: Part two of *The Times* weekly guide to the world's leading ski resorts

## Ski like clockwork

Critics say that Switzerland is expensive, the lift queues long and there is neither the "cosy" feeling of Austrian village resorts nor the efficiency of French ski-in/ski-out purpose-built complexes. As one Swiss press dossier puts it: "No resort can afford not to pay attention to the magical sound of cash".

Switzerland attracts the more affluent, more experienced British skier, who is convinced that Swiss resorts offer better value. Every Swiss resort is accessible by train or special bus. The infrastructure, from rescue services to transport and telecommunications, is superior. Swiss quality is not entirely a myth.

Taking the Glacier Express to Zermatt or St Moritz is the only way to go skiing for some, but Switzerland affords scores of inexpensive, family-orientated ski villages among its more than 100 resorts. Below, I revisit the most renowned Swiss destinations, and touch on a few lesser known resorts which deserve exploration.

## ZERMATT

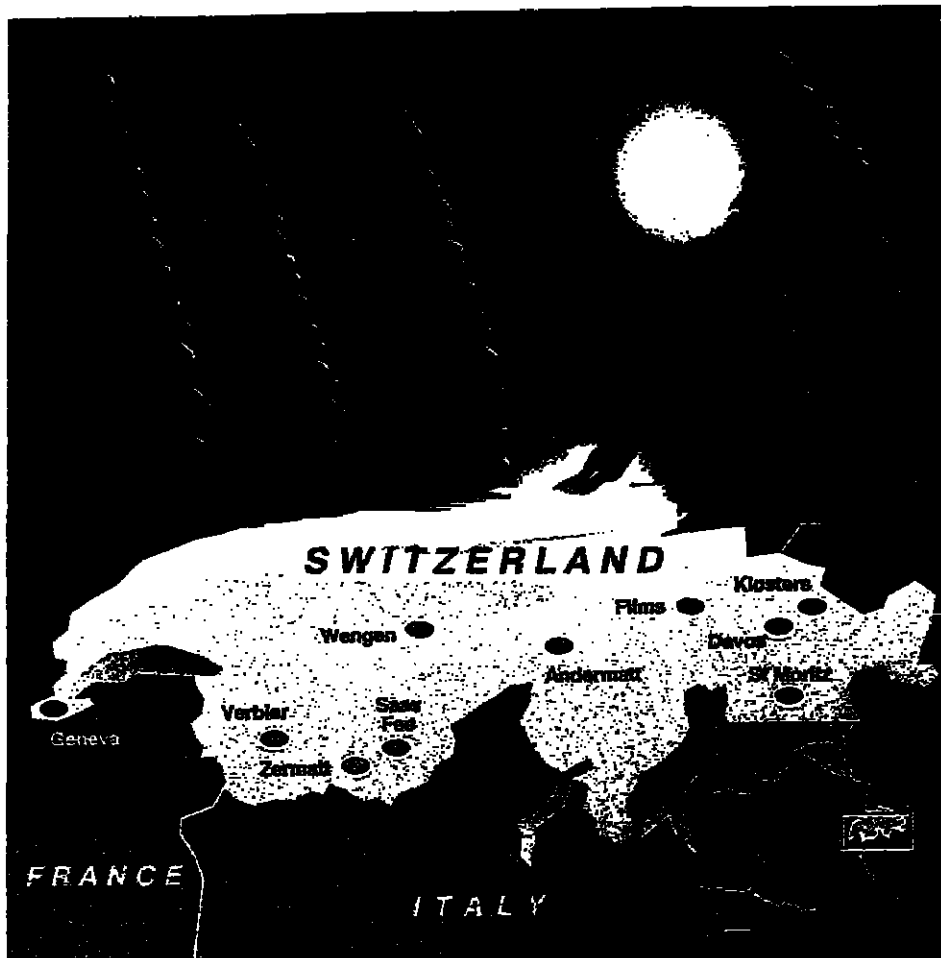
Everybody's idea of the ideal winter resort: the Matterhorn by moonlight, the bronze statues of marmots covered in falling snow. Among distinguished hotels and restaurants there are still old barns redolent of sheep and cows. And now, a McDonald's on the main street.

Riding the cog railway up the Gornergrat in sunshine is like going to skiing heaven. Zermatt's terrain flatters the intermediate: lots of skiing to lunch and lots of long walks trying to get around the car-free lanes to the widespread lift stations. Electric taxis are, like everything else, expensive.

## WENGEN

All that's wrong with other Swiss resorts is right in Wengen. No cars, not many skiers and little commercialism. Sadly, however, there has not been much snow in the Bernese Oberland this past decade. But the views in Wengen and its sister resorts of Mürren and Grindelwald compensate.

A railway train winds right up through the Eiger area to the Jungfrau station at 3,454m (11,330ft). From here, with a guide, skiing down the Aletsch, Europe's biggest glacier, is a popular option. The Jungfrau ski region combines in ideal form the terror of mountains, such as the Eiger, and the delight of open skiing on rock-free pastureland, when there is snow.



## VERBIER

Intermediate skiers are attracted to Verbier partly by its very generous family discounts, but only experts can do justice to the off-piste terrain.

Much criticised in the past, Verbier now advertises a consumer-friendly attitude: an innovative 2,000-person per hour funitel lift system replaces the creeping Ruinettes cable car and pistes have been extensively graded, with the rocks removed and new snow-making devices added.

A section of the town centre has been paved to give pedestrians a congenial strolling space — and anyone who still has complaints is invited to a weekly gripe session with resort officials.

## KLOSTERS/DAVOS

The Rega area lift pass covers the classic snowfields of Parsenn, some pocket-size family resorts and far-ranging itineraries.

Davos is a city with more than ample shopping attractions. Klosters, despite its road traffic, is still sleepy. In Klosters skiers make friends with local residents; there is no glitz, no fuss. Some lifts are bad bottle-necks but the open, sunny

terrain allows for a freedom, on and off piste, which accords adventure to even an early intermediate.

## FLIMS/LAAX

The White Arena ski region is a huge playground, better known to the Swiss than to the British; family skiing and family prices attract the Swiss. Laax is ugly and often crowded but the Waldhaus area has charming, old-fashioned hotels, one set in a vast park. There is no particular cachet attached to skiing Flims, but there are few resorts with so few drawbacks.

## SAAS FEE

Wooden barns preserve the rural feel of Saas Fee, where the glacier tongues lap down right into the outskirts of the village. The skiing here is impressively scenic but a touch limited in range.

This winter, the second stage Alpine Express opens, bringing skiers from village level to the 3,000m entrance of the underground Metro funicular, which bores through rock to a lofty 3,500m.

A new drag lift, ingeniously erected on a moving glacier floor, replaces the old Fee-Schätz transfer by caterpillar snow cat.

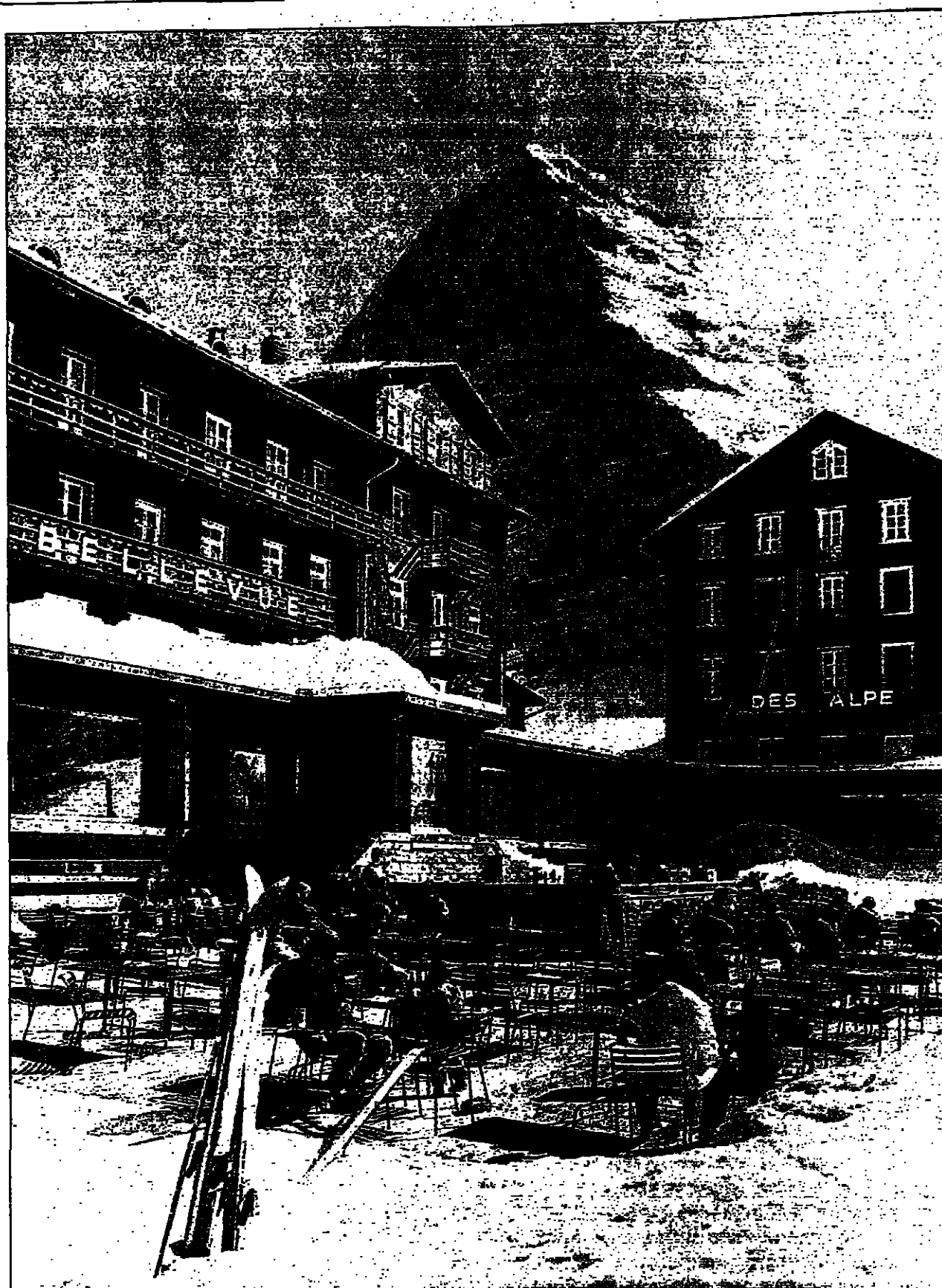
## ANDERMATT

One of the most unspoilt and uncrowded (on weekdays) hamlets in the Alps, Andermatt is so free of traffic that skiing through the streets is routine. A "snow hole", Andermatt is not a sunny resort. The long itineraries down the Gemstock are as good as non-glacier off-piste skiing gets. The resort has the feel of an Ambridge of the Alps. Old stone hotels from coaching days and homey guesthouses from an age of more expansive dimensions offer good value.

## ST MORITZ

This is where winter breaks began, in 1864 with British pioneers, and St Moritz is still in a class of its own. Nowhere offers more glamour or more spectacle. The town's aging urban architecture has no alpine charm, but the Engadine valley is the most beautiful in Switzerland. The skiing attracts stunt film crews, though intermediate runs predominate. Horse racing and polo on ice draw the fashionable. The Cresta Run, closed to women, remains the most terrifying of all winter holiday activities.

DOUG SAGER  
● Next week: Austria.



Wengen, gateway to the Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau peaks, is a popular ski resort in Switzerland

## Pick of the tour firms

The concept of specialising in advice on ski resorts and package holidays is claimed by Ski Solutions (071-602 9900). Lizzie Norton, a director, has had much experience with Swiss resorts and was married in Zermatt (Doug Sager writes).

Citing Wengen's "toy town ambience", Ms Norton chooses this car-free village as the best for newcomers to the sport. Intermediates should follow the royals to Klosters, she says.

Ms Norton picks Zermatt as the resort for the expert skier with an unstinting budget. Heliskiing in Zermatt in spring is "a must, if you can afford it".

Here is my shortlist of tour operators in Britain with the most experience in Switzerland. Prices indicate the lowest holidays offers during January and the most expensive accommodation during the February high season. Insurance, ski

hire and ski passes are extra unless stated otherwise.

Knooni (0306 742500; fax 0306 744 222)

Zermatt and Wengen are the most popular of Knooni's 22 Swiss resorts. It offers: seven additional nights' (room only) with each full hotel package; free lift passes; and a flat rate of £99 per child. From £291 (self-catered studio) to £1,544 (five-star hotel St Moritz).

Powder Byrnie (071-223 0601; fax 071-228 1491)

Klosters is the favourite resort of Powder Byrnie's 1,350 skiers.

The company leads the pack in off-piste holidays, with ten years' experience in the Swiss Alps, the best local mountain guides, and a limit of six skiers per off-piste group, instead of the eight to ten other operators accept. Prices from £425 (chalet) to £1,576 (Grand Hotel Zermatterhof).

Ski Scott Dunn (081-767 0202; fax 081-767 2026)

Catering to an intensely loyal clientele, Scott Dunn guides its 1,100 skiers to Zermatt and Champéry in the Portes du Soleil. Tea in bed, champagne picnics; in short, ski holidays for people who ordinarily

would never book a package. Prices from £335 to £765.

Swiss Travel Service (0992 456123; fax 0992 448855)

Carrying 10,000 skiers to an enviable selection of Swiss hotels in 19 resorts, Swiss Travel Service has the only direct flights to Bern and free carriage of luggage (two pieces) with the Swiss Fly-Rail system direct from UK airports to resort centres. From £330 (self-catered flat) to £1,993 (five-star hotel).

Crystal (081-399 5144; fax 081-390 6378)

Saas Fee is the most popular resort with Crystal's 4,000 Swiss-bound skiers. Crystal is flexible in the choice of departure airport from Britain, offers both hotel and chalet accommodation, and has perhaps the most competitive prices. From £242 (self-catered flat) to £969 (four-star hotel).



Sleigh rides and torchlight processions are a feature of some resorts, such as the Courmayeur festival in February

□ Last year America attracted 30,000 British skiers (4.4 per cent of the market here), and this year the numbers look set to increase. Bladon Lines (081-785 3131, fax 081-789 8353) offers a new package to Jackson Hole, Wyoming: besides hotel accommodation, it also offers exclusive B&B places — flight, transfer and 14 nights at Moose Meadows, for example, would cost from £739 to £949.

□ SKI 3000's Gourmet skiing programme offers catered chalets at resorts such as Val d'Isère. A week's full board in December, with a ski guide costs from £224, including flights from Gatwick. Information on 0223 302747.

□ HIGH peak fanatics can ski some of France's highest mountains all within a week through Ski Top Deck (071-370 4555), which provides a guide and

transport to Tignes, Val d'Isère, Val Thorens, Courchevel and Méribel. One week from £369 half-board (Jan) from Gatwick.

□ THOSE apprehensive about travelling long distances up mountains, should know that at Sölden, in the Austrian Tirol, the Gaislachkogelbahn cable car rises about 4,017 metres.

□ TO coincide with the Courmayeur festival at the end of February, Ultimate Holidays (0279 755527) is offering a week's holiday, departing February 25, for £419 half board, including flights from Manchester, Gatwick or Glasgow.

□ THE Good Skiing Guide 1995 (£14.99, Which? Books) compares facilities and costs in more than 400 European and North American resorts. Advice includes: ski racks, winter

tyres and snow chains should be specifically requested in advance on hire cars at airports abroad; hotels, ski lift companies and shops in resorts in Austria, Switzerland and Italy may refuse credit cards and, in some cases, Eurocheques; and that some insurance policies offer off-piste cover only if you are skiing with a qualified guide — without specifying qualifications needed.

SUSAN GROSSMAN

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WEEKEND BREAK: Rome's plain, robust tradition of cooking remains gloriously unbowed to the dictates of food bullies

# Edible joys of the Eternal City

Keeping one hand on the wheel, the taxi driver swivels round to explain: how you make a dish that, in translation, means "pork in prison". He gestures precisely to indicate dissection and stuffing as the Colosseum flashes past on the right. He mimes a cutting action and points to his foot, grunting and repeating what I now know is the Italian for "pig's trotters". As we pass the UN Food and Agriculture building on one side and the Circus Maximus on the other, he's deep into the edible joys of skin and bones and the wobbly bits between. I'm thinking that it's not in every city that a panegyric on offal is included in the fare.

But then Rome isn't picky or too sophisticated in its attitude to food. This is the city where the favourite bacon for carbonara is still *guanciale* cut from the pig's cheek and where *pajata arrosto* (small intestine of veal grilled with black pepper) is by no means difficult to find. What's more, Rome's plain, robust, desperately democratic tradition of cooking, gloriously untouched by any submission to the Michelin food bullies (the Italians like to remember that it was they who taught the French to cook) tells you a great deal about the city itself.

Rome is a tourist city all-year round, shored up on dollar and yen. To make some sense of its huge carvas it helps to have a focus, a corner of the picture to study in detail. When I first visited Rome as a student the Romantic Poets did their bit, leading me into graveyards and the places where beautiful young men had nursed their chest infections. Much later I went looking for the leftovers of *La Dolce Vita*, but found the fountain and Harry's Bar empty of glamorous people. Now, more clayfootedly, it's food that is leading me on. I wanted to know Rome through its stomach.

For my mission I could have no better guide than the writer Diane Seed, who has made a life's work out of celebrating regional Italian cooking. She first came to Rome 20 years ago and now has that air of indulgent exasperation common amongst mothers of naughty children and foreigners who have chosen to live in the Eternal City. As we sweep through the streets in search of the most wonderful bakery ("let's stay and have *torte ricotta*") and a favourite butcher, Ms Seed told me, over her shoulder, how *la gola* (the palate) was the great leveler in Rome and that there was very little snobbery in buying and enjoying food. It is a conservative pleasure — this is the city where the opening of the first McDonald's at the foot of the Spanish Steps was greeted by an angry demonstration and where, even now, the supermarket is a rarity. As a result grocers, shops such as *Salumeria Focacci* on via della Croce and *Catena* on via Appia Nuova (the Roman equivalent of Fortnum & Mason) are opulently stacked with food.

Walking towards the market at Piazza Vittorio it is clear that Rome is now also home to many Africans and Asians and East Europeans, many of them illegal immigrants, some of whom sleep rough and wash their clothes in the fountains on the Oppian Hill. In the market itself, alongside the acrylic trousers and *Levi's* Superwall hangings, the live crabs and chickens, there are all the rich pickings from the volcanic soil of the Castelli Romani and the gardens of Rome. But beside the piles of fresh leaf — small tasty *broccolo romano*, bitter *cicoria*, rocket, chard and cardoons like artichokes — there are now the spices and vegetables that this new Roman population need. The thick Roman accents of the traditional stallholders are mixed with Arabic and other languages and there are comical piles of spices, yellow and orange and deep red. You can buy halal meat and hundred-year-old eggs. There are ru-



Diners enjoy a meal in the Piazza Navona, Bernini's famous fountains in the foreground. Food in Rome is an unfussy affair; dishes such as small intestines and cuts of bacon from a pig's cheek are considered delicacies

mours that the market is to be closed to make way for a new business district. Locals shrug their shoulders. Words rarely presage swift action in Rome.

For visitors, it's the promise of a picnic in a carefully chosen corner of Rome that legitimises the hour or so wandering in the market. I like to shop in the *via della Croce* for bread and cheese and salami, and buy fruit from the stalls in the sidestreets and then picnic in the Villa Borghese Park, all the more alluring now that the Borghese Gallery has been sufficiently restored and is able to show its wonderful collection of Bernini sculptures. You can hire a bike in

Mastrianni brothers, cousins of Marcello who display a photograph to prove it.

The restaurant *Cecchino* started life as a wine shop. Monte Testaccio was the place where the Romans dumped their old pottery amphorae — so many of them that they grew into a hill. In the wine cellar you can see the dense layers of earthenware that support the building.

At *Cecchino* offal is an art form. For 105 years they have been serving delicious sweetbreads, calf's entrails, tripe, spinal marrow and what is listed on the translated menu as "testicles". The first customers were slaughterhouse

in the restaurant was animated — I guessed the diners were speculating on how long the government would last.

Next morning I walked to the Palatine Hill (which is empty of tourists before 10am and is worth the early journey for an incomparable view of Ancient Rome without the traffic). I was looking for the house which may have belonged to Augustus's widow, Livia, and which dates from just before Christianity. The dining room, as promised, was decorated with a fresco of sumptuous, still-vivid fruit and flowers, draped around the room in great swags, a tribute to the pleasures of entertainment and food.

Augustus was fairly tolerant of the Jews who lived in the ghetto by the Tiber and who gave Rome another set of traditions and a cuisine worth exploring. I went to the *Pompiere* restaurant which occupies the airy first floor of the *Cenci Palace* in the ghetto (try the salted cod, battered marrow and flowers, and young artichokes flattened and deep fried). This is Europe's longest-surviving Jewish community, dominated by the Synagogue which contains a museum of Roman Jewish life. There's also an all-female bakery which makes a legendary *ricotta* and *damsel tart*.

Whichever way you turn, food is never a blind alley in Rome. And, just as you're always sure that, whatever the fashion, Roman men will find it best to wear a blue shirt and camel coloured suit, so food remains an unchanging pleasure — and a useful source of conversation and mime with taxi drivers.

SUSAN MARLING

□ Diane Seed is the author of several books on Italian cooking, published by Rosendale Press.

## THE WORLD AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

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the afternoon or give yourself a break from old carvings and stone by visiting the National Gallery of Modern and Contemporary art which also has a home in the park.

The food trail in Rome leads to some of the more salty margins of the city. Ms Seed recommended a restaurant called *Cecchino* dal 1887 in via Monte Testaccio. Close to the Protestant Cemetery (where Shelley is buried) and the Pyramid of Caius Cestius, *Testaccio* is Rome at its most Roman — a working class quarter for slaughterhouses and is now one of Rome's few lively areas for nightclubs, cheap trattorias and gay cruising. During the day there's an excellent local market which includes a fish stall run by the

workers who were given the unspeakable bits of the animal as a perk of the job and they brought this "fifth quarter" along to be cooked.

There are no bloody aprons at *Cecchino* now. Under two huge wrought-iron wagon-wheel lights, smart-suited customers sit at plain but beautifully laid tables. Nineteen Marianni and her two sons, descendants of the original owners, preside with great urbanity and charm. I chose their *insalata di zampì* — a trotter salad — and then the *coda alla vaccinara*, a dish of oxtail stewed in a tomato sauce with celery, pine nuts and raisins. This came with *puntarella*, a salad vegetable which the Romans eat with a dressing of garlic and pounded anchovies. The talk



A typical market stall selling fresh green vegetables

## WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 21

**CHADBAND**  
(a) The verbose and hypocritical Dissenting minister in *Bleak House*. He is admired by Mrs Snagsby: "A large yellow man, with a fat smile, and a general appearance of having a good deal of train oil in his system." He "never spoke without first putting up his great hand, as delivering a token to his hearers that he is going to edify them", and is addressed to famous rhetorical questions ("What is peace, my friends? Is it war? No, etc.).

**GRINDER**  
(a) The itinerant showman in *The Old Curiosity Shop*. He travels with a large drum on his back. His "lot" or troupe consists of two young performers on stilts. Nell meets this group when she is travelling to the races with Codlin and Short.

**MRS PEGLER**  
(a) Bounderby's mother in *Hard Times*, a decent hard-working woman who managed to provide him with an education. He pays her to remain in obscurity, fearing she may reveal the respectability of his origins. These he is at pains to hide in order to promote the fiction of his rise from rags to riches. But in the end Mrs Pegler is unwillingly forced to reveal the truth.

**CHARLEY BATES**  
(a) The Artful Dodger's "very sprightly young friend", the most cheerful member of Fagin's gang of young pickpockets. The reader is told that the shock of Nancy's murder led him to mend his ways and "he is now the merriest young grazer in all Northamptonshire".

## How to get there

- The author was a guest of *ItaliaTour* (071-371 1114). The company offers short breaks to Rome from £277 per person including scheduled Alitalia flights from Heathrow to Rome Fiumicino, transfer and two nights B&B in a three-star hotel. (Prices valid until October 31.)
- Alitalia flights Heathrow-Rome in October: Superpex is £240 midweek, £249 weekend. Special offer until end of October: £173 midweek, £184 weekend. Reservations: 071-602 7111. BA Heathrow/Gatwick-Rome World Offer is £173 midweek, £184 weekend (must book before September 1 and travel outward bound before the end of October). Reservations: 0345 223111.
- Other operators include Abercrombie & Kent (071-730 9600), Italian Escapades (061-748 2661) and Skybus (071-373 6055).

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# Sinking city of the Aztec gods



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yellow to green, the cheap and plentiful, and the Metro is swift and efficient. By day, visit the countless churches and museums and roam the colonial centre, and at night head for the many excellent restaurants. Los Almendros offers specialities from the Yucatán — a fine cuisine not, to my knowledge, encountered easily in Britain — but Cicero, occupying an 18th-century mansion, delivers an evening memorable for more than good cooking:

*Mariachi* bands also float through the waterways of Xochimilco, all that remains of the canals created by the Aztecs. These "floating gardens" used to be known as the "stinking gardens", when I first came here, but they've been cleaned

and freshly cooked corn. The unmissable attraction of the city is Teotihuacán, a vast collection of temples and pyramids on the outskirts. Little is known of the Teotihuacán culture, which preceded the Aztecs, but they certainly knew how to build. It's a 206-foot stagger to the top of the Pyramid of the Moon, but worth every gasp and wheeze on the way. South of the city is the once rural retreat, now embraced by the sprawl, of San Angel. Cobble lanes are lined with high walls concealing vast haciendas. Electronic gates occasionally swing open to allow dowers to be driven off to lunch. The great painter Diego Rivera, who painted the superb propaganda

Its best features, other than the open-air whirlpool bath, include the bar, which lists 17 tequilas, and the excellent restaurants. I sampled the pre-Columbian hors d'oeuvres: ants' eggs taste like popcorn, crickets aren't nearly as crunchy as they look, and maguery worms taste like undercooked liver. So stick to the *ceviche* (marinated raw fish) the steak, and the snapper.

□ Forthcoming Irish Festivals include the Galway Oyster Festival (September 23-25); Guinness Cork Jazz (October 28-31); and Wexford Opera (October 24 to November 7). O'Mara Travel offers four nights in Wexford, including three opera tickets and the ferry crossing, from £245 B&B. Tel: 010 3531 269 6033.

□ The National Trust's centenary is being celebrated with the launch of the National Trust Travel Collection in conjunction with Page & Moy. Tours will include a visit to the Vienna Opera in January (from £480 for four nights B&B, including tickets); and special interest tours of Italy. Tel: 0533 524444.

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